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MISCELLANIES

ON

HOMŒOPATHY,

EDITED

BY AN ASSOCIATION

OF

HOMŒOPATHIC PHYSICIANS.

Reissue of Amer. Journ. of Homœ.
Nos. 1–6 = Aug 1838 – July 1839.
were issued.

Philadelphia:

PUBLISHED BY W. L. J. KIDERLEN & Co.,
64 South Fourth Street.

1839.

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PREFACE.

Although the adversaries of Homœopathy have from year to year predicted its downfall, it has not only maintained its standing, but its whole history shows, that its progress both in Europe and America has been steady and unwavering. This progress has been particularly remarkable in the United States. Whilst 6 years ago there were only two or three Homœopathic physicians in the United States, their number has now increased to nearly a hundred. The great majority of physicians are, however, still reluctant to pay any attention to it, though its salutary influence upon the prevailing method of practice cannot be denied. Not a few physicians have commenced to imitate the practice of Homœopathy by lessening the doses of their medicines, by simplifying their prescriptions, or by following the exspectative method, to which they ascribe all the success of Homœopathy. Justly considering, that every new system contains at least some truths, these physicians believed that they accomplished enough, when they followed its prescriptions, so far as they coincided with their own supposed better opinions. With its absurdities as the small doses, &c., are called, they would have nothing to do. But they overlooked how few of the laws of nature are yet known to us, and that Homœopathy, which claims to be founded upon such a law, could not be judged of by doctrines, which are rendered nugatory by it, but alone by a series of rigid and impartial experiments, conducted in strict adherence to the rules prescribed by the new doctrine.

Other physicians, particularly those held in high reputation, see in the success of every new system, a death-blow to all their professional consequence, and what is often more bitter, to their cherished medical doctrines. Will such physicians apply themselves to the investigation of a new truth, which demands of its votaries the most assiduous study, and in many respects the greatest self-denial? They are totally unfit for such a task, for the spirit which keeps the mind active at such studies, has with

them long since fled. They wish not to be disturbed in their repose; and believing their own medical theories to be the only true ones, a new science, which can only be perfected by *renewed and universal cultivation*, would therefore necessarily be false.— A third class of physicians are, for reasons still more unworthy, detered from studying this or any new science. It is that not inconsiderable class, who regard medicine merely "as a good cow, which furnishes them with butter."* But these, as forming the lowest grade of the profession, may be very properly here dismissed.

The opponents of Homœopathy in the United States, have hitherto paid little attention to the theoretical part, which has led to such numerous discussions in Europe. No comprehensive criticism has on this account appeared in the medical Journals of this country. The editors for the most part contented themselves with laying before the public what they considered to be *facts*, well knowing the practical bias of our countrymen, upon whom facts only could make any impression. Hence the spurious Russian Hospital Reports, Andral's experiments, &c., were published in the medical Journals of the old school. They have, however, availed nothing, and the unprejudiced public have easily detected their falsehood.

For those, however, who may feel inclined to investigate the doctrines of Homœopathy fairly, we will state the points distinctly, against which a refutation must be *exclusively* directed.

1) The fundamental law *Similia Similibus* and its universal validity in practice.
2) The advantages of employing a single remedy at a time.
3) The efficacy of the comparatively small doses and particularly the dilutions.
4) The trials of the medicines on the healthy system.

These fundamental principles fully express all that appertains to Homœopathy, in a theoretical and practical point of view.

NEIDHARD.

* Schiller.

EIGHTEEN THESES,

ILLUSTRATING THE PRINCIPLES OF HOMŒOPATHY, ACCORDING TO THEIR TRUE SENSE AND SCIENTIFIC ACCEPTATION, ADDRESSED TO THE FRIENDS AND OPPONENTS OF THAT METHOD OF CURE, BY DR. PAUL WOLF OF DRESDEN.

Translated from the German, by C. F. MATLACK, M. D.

WITHIN the last few years, essays by Drs. Rau, Mueller, Schroen, Griesselich, Wolf and others, have from time to time appeared in the Homœopathic Medical Journals of Europe, with the intention of enlightening the profession and the public at large, upon the subject of Homœopathy. These essays all agree in the main propositions, and so far, may be considered as true expositions of the principles of the science. The eighteen propositions of Dr. Wolf (translated from the Archives of Homœopathic Medicine, vol. 16, No. 1) have been selected for re-publication in the Amer. Journal of Homœopathy, and having received the sanction of the central Homœopathic society in Germany, they may, upon the whole, be considered as representing the opinions of Homœopathic physicians generally. We are aware that there is a difference of opinion respecting some points here embraced, but they do not in the least impair the fundamental principles of the Hahnemannean method of cure.

1.—Homœopathic physicians recognize the principle: (which was suspected by physicians of earlier times, but first fully established and practically confirmed by Hahnemann),

That diseases can be cured by small doses of those remedies, which in large doses are capable of producing similar diseases in the healthy subject.

They regard it as a law of nature, upon which a more energetic, simple and less uncertain method of cure can be founded, and have abundantly proved its practical applicability to the manifold forms of disease.

2.—The practical application of that law in concrete cases of disease, however, is not so easy as it appears to those who judge without experience, but, on the contrary, very difficult. This being the deliberate judgment of physicians who have for years practised the Homœopathic method of cure, and whose testimony is competent, any attempt to degrade that method by declaring that any one may become a Homœopathic physician in a few weeks or days, seems but an ill formed aspersion, and experience will teach another lesson.

3.—We will not deny that isolated propositions of the Organon may have induced the belief, that Hahnemann founded the medical treatment solely upon what was cognizable to the senses,—upon the mere comparison of symptoms. It might appear, therefore, as if it were the aim of Homœopathy only to annihilate the symptoms, as such, without regard to their internal connexion, and that the exercise of the understanding were thereby rendered superfluous, and the posession and use of a medical education could be entirely dispensed with. Yet if the rigid critics of our doctrine had done us the justice to regard what the Homœopathic physicians themselves have said upon the subject, they would not have persisted in the declaration that Homœopathy is a purely symptomatic method of treatment. They have done this, however, the more conveniently to exhibit it in contrast with, or to caricature it before the old school. It has long been the sentiment notoriously expressed by many Homœopathic physicians, that if Hahnemann entertained such thoughts, he must be cherishing a delusion. Others, while repudiating any such inferences from his writings, insisted that because he passed over many things in silence, it did not follow that he therefore intended to reject them, or not to consider them as indispensable. Be this as it may, however, what has been said sufficiently proves, that it never entered our minds to encourage the sentiment, that the want of scientific attainments should be the basis, and rude empiricism the condition necessary for the practice of the Healing Art. Rather, from independent conviction, and uninfluenced by the writings of our adversaries, we have announced in the clearest manner, that the idea that the Homœopathic principle of cure could be realized without the knowledge and employment of what is established as useful of the old school of medicine, we regard in a theoretical relation, as monstrous, and practically, as evidently impossible. The Homœopathic physicians are en-

titled to repel all and every of those premises, arbitrarily assumed, as alien to the theory and practice of the Homœopathic method, and totally unfounded.

4.—In that proposition of Hahnemann in which it is declared that the totality of the symptoms, is the only indication of the remedy to be chosen, we accept the expression "totality of symptoms" in its most enlarged interpretation, and understand by it not merely the morbid phenomena of the instant in which a case of disease is presented to us, but as collective pathological momenta, occuring within the space between the termination of health and the existing morbid condition, in their order of succession, duration and transition. We recognize as true then, this oft assailed proposition, in the following acceptation, viz:

a. That the Homœopathic physician should not permit himself to be guided by the individual, but by the aggregate morbid symptoms, collected with great care, in all their shades and in all their relations, which Hahnemann was the first to recognize as worthy of attention, viz: changes of the mental condition, influence of the time of day, postures of the body, &c.; and

b. That pathology and therapeutics should not be based upon transcendental conceptions, but only upon the manifestations of disease which are cognizable to the senses.

5.—We by no means, however, entertain the opinion, as has been often asserted, that the Homœopathic physician can dispense with reflection and judgment upon the phenomena of the disease; as if his business consisted of nothing more than to compare the collective symptoms of the case before him, with the symptoms afforded by different remedies in the materia medica, and then to select that particular Homœopathic remedy, the symptoms of which correspond both nominally and numerically the nearest with those of the case before him. Never would we countenance such rude empiricism, which might very properly be denominated the grave of science.* No! the selection of a Homœopathic remedy presupposes more than the mechanical comparison of the symptoms of disease with those of the remedies; a process this, so little in accordance with the fundamental principle of Homœopathy, that the successful treatment of disea-

* This was an expression applied to Homœopathy by the late celebrated Dr. Hufeland, the coryphæus of the old school in Germany. Trans.

ses effected in this manner, we must regard as in no small deg uncertain. When they do occur, they may be readily explained the fact that the character of a natural disease, as well as a dicinal one, is often reflected, in delicate shades, which when attentively notice, we will sometimes also find the remedy respo ing to the character of the disease.

The fundamental principle of Homœopathy does not as that "a medicine is capable of curing morbid *symptoms*, whic can call forth in the healthy subject," but: "medicines are cap of curing *diseases* similar to those that they can produce in healthy."* Consequently, it requires in the Homœopathic rem *similarity of the disease*, and the similarity of the symptom only the adjutory means (Hülfsmittel) of learning this. Now the one hand, *very similar diseases* must be represented by *ver milar symptoms;* but, on the other, groups of symptoms which to senses appear very similar, may be the reflex of the most diffe diseases. It is therefore highly important and necessary for Homœopathic physician to assure himself by all the me afforded by medical science, that between the symptoms of disease and those of the remedy to be chosen, there is not o an external, apparent similarity, but what is likewise deman by the Homœopathic principle of cure, an essential internal respondence between the natural and the medicinal disease relation to their *seat, kind* and *character.* It is, therefore, principal business of the Homœopathic physician to sepa the primitive symptoms from others that are concomitant sensuellen), as far as an explanatory pathology will admit, out giving place to uncertain hypothesis. Besides the dia of the disease, therefore, a knowledge of the character dividual remedies is demanded. The symptoms are easily out in alphabetical registers, but not the character; hen phy sician of the old school, even an experienced one, it no easy task to conduct experiments with the Hom method.

6. — That the theory of the Homœopathists leads th gard the symptoms of the disease as the disease itself. Even Hahnemann has given no occasion for such a

* See Organon, Amer. Edit. p. 43. "To cure in a mild, manner, it is necessary to choose in each case a medicine similar to that against which it is employed.

† Org. 3. Edit. §. 6. "Only the aggregate of the disease which is exposed to the observation of the phy-

acknowledge and employ whatever in this respect is authentic, and established in many forms of disease, and which we derive from the old school, and we desire for both schools that a nearer approach to perfection may be attained, by means of greater progress in the knowledge of the healthy and morbid condition of the human frame. For, it is not a matter of indifferance, nor is it unnecessary for him to know whether a man is provided with a stomach or not,* whether the stomach or the lungs are diseased, whether he has a case of serous effusion before him, or a tympanitis, a hydrocephalus or a worm fever. Little short of the blindest passion can give rise to such assertions under the name of arguments against the scientific tendency of Homœopathy, in the face of the most striking illustrations on the subject, which are contained in the "Archives" and other Homœopathic periodicals.

The reproach cast upon the Hahnemannean system, that it takes cognizance of one side of the organism only, viz: the dynamic, is not wholly unfounded, since chemical and mechanical alterations are little regarded; but the influence of this partial view is the less injurious, because the dynamic side is the predominant one, and in most cases, it is the most accessible to our Art.

8. — When the charge "that it is not the ultimate aim of the Homœopathist in his treatment, to remove the disease itself (tollere causam), but only the aggregate of symptoms present," is endeavoured to be grounded upon this proposition of Hahnemann, viz: — "the ensemble of the symptoms is the principle and sole object that a physician ought to have in view in every case of disease—the power of his art is to be directed against that alone in order to cure and transform it into health;"† too much is yielded to the sense afforded by the mere superficial estimation of this proposition and others of similar import, abstractedly considered, inasmuch as it appears from the context, that Hahnemann intended it to be infered that he, in fact, cured by removing the cause; since the *permanent* extinction of all the apparent symptoms could only be the result of a removal of their cause.‡

* See Stieglitz: Ueber die Homœopathie. Hannover, 1835.

"It is unnecessary for a Homœopathic physician, to know, for example, whether there is a stomach or a liver, where they lie, how they are constituded, nor what are their functions."

† Organon Amer. Edit. §. 7.

‡ Organon Amer. Edit. §. 8. Note. "In one who has thus been restored to health

This proposition to which, in a practical view* nothing can be objected, has been wrested into a point of distinction beween the two schools. But Hahnemann's criteria of restored health (permanent and entire annihilation of all morbid phenomena) have no particular relation to the Homœopathic method of treatment, they are just as applicable to patients restored by a physician of the old school, or to those who recover without medical interference. However highly our opponents may boast of their pre-eminence, they might have allowed that the Homœopathic physicians possess sufficient understanding, to regard an individual as healthy, only after the morbid phenomena have been permanently extinguished, (and not the epileptic, or a patient with intermittent fever during his exemption from a paroxysm†) that we do not consider a patient restored to health, after having extinguished, by means of a remedy, one combination of symptoms, while others appear in their stead; but only after the permanent removal of all the symptoms, so that they can no longer be recognized by the physician or patient.

9. — The attempt to make it a point of difference, that only the old shool effects causal-cures‡ while ours does not, is due either to intentional misstatement, or deficient information.

by a genuine physician, so that no trace of disease, no morbid symptom any longer remains and every token of health has again durably returned, can it for a moment be supposed without offering an insult to common sense, that the entire disease still essentially resides in such a person?"

* We advisedly say "in a practical point of view." For we are well aware that proof is not wanting to show, that highly important diseases, lesions of the most important organs have taken place, not only without the usual symptoms, but even without any morbid phenomena, from which the presence of a disease could have been suspected. In a case of this kind, the patient would be considered in health, while he is not. An object of cure is there, but not for the physician, who in the absence of pathological signs, cannot discover it, belong to whatever school he may. The case is somewhat different, when such concealed disease is manifested in a very few and unimportant symptoms, not in proportion to the magnitude of the fundamental cause, and not according to general rules. He would not be regarded as healthy, in whom morbid phenomena are present, when their cause is not discernible. By the way, we are not ignorant that, even under such unfavourable circumstances, judging from the peculiarity and obstinacy of the symptoms, their knowledge of the individuality of the patient, his predispositions, previous diseases, &c., physicians of great perspicacity have been led to suspect the concealed enemy and have successfully encountered it. But such perspicacity is an individual property and not peculiar to any one school.

† Mückisch: Die Homœopathie in ihrer Würde als Wissenschaft und Kunst.

‡ The Germans call those cures "causal" (Causalkuren) which extinguish the morbid symptoms by means of investigating and removing their cause. Trans.

In the first place, it is a groundless charge, that the Homœopathic physician expects to cure a disease during the continued operation of the occasional cause and *without the removal* of that cause, merely by means of a remedy suited to the aggregate of the symptoms.* Hahnemann has so often expressed himself upon this subject, that the pretence of misconception cannot for a moment be allowed. † We again declare, that the charge in question, implying as it does the grossest ignorance, is utterly untrue; in all cases wherein the remote cause continues to operate, if its removal be possible by the interference of art, we consider it just as much a primary indication to remove it, as do the physicians of the old school.

As the essence (Wesen) of a disease *(taken in the strictest sense of that term)* is unknown, a „causal-cure," which has for its immediate object of treatment that essence, can take place just as little by the old method as by ours. The pretension to causal-cures in *this* sense is in other respects the less availing as proof of a general point of difference between the two schools, inasmuch as many of the adherents of the old school manifestly entertain the same views, ‡ and mere hypothesis and self-deception will go for nothing. Between the principle of Homœopathy and

* See Heinroth Antiorganon, p. 35.

† Vide Organon, Amer. Edit. §. 7. Note 1. "It is taken for granted that every intelligent physician will commence by removing this 'causa occasionalis;' then the indisposition usually yields of itself. Thus, it is necessary to remove flowers from the room when their odors occasion paroxysms of fainting or hysteria; to extract from the eye the foreign substance which occasions ophthalmia; to remove a tight bandage from a wounded limb which threatens gangrene, and apply others more suitable; lay bare and tie up a wounded artery where hæmorrhage produces fainting; evacuate the berries of belladonna, &c., which have been swallowed, by vomiting; extract the foreign particles which may have introduced themselves into the openings of the body (the nose, pharynx, ears, methra, rectum); grind down a stone in the bladder; open the imperforate anus of the new born infant, &c."

‡ Prof. Choulant thus expresses himself (Neue Zeitschrift f. Natur- und Heilkunde, B. 1. H. 2.: Grundzüge für die selbstständige Bearbeitung der Medicin): "The uncertainty of practical medicine is the consequence of our attachiug too high a value to our mental powers, since we not only assume to know the inscrutable, viz: the diseased process taking place internally, but even make this inscrutable itself the basis of our medical theories. We are content with images and apparent explanations of that internal cause, and build upon it our pathologo-therapeutical system; while this cutaneous eruption, that nervous disease, or that fever must teach us that we are able to discern almost any thing sooner than that internal process which determines the course of the disease."

"But that which is cognizable of the disease, is only its remote cause and the totality of its symptoms; the connecting link which unites the two, the proximate

such a causal-cure, however, there would be no incompatibilty. Did we possess an intimate knowledge of the Nature (Wesen) of diseases and an equal acquaintance with the operation of medicines upon the healthy, it would be in our power to cure Homœopathically with still greater certainty. From the conviction that practical medicine requires an objective basis to answer its destination, and that its limits should be restricted to what we know or what may be known by investigation, we embrace the principle of suffering ourselves to be led by the *lower*, but, to us, *attainable* data, rather than by the higher, which lies beyond the reach of human scrutiny.* We are able to investigate only the laws of phenomena, but not their internal cause, and when we think that we have explored the essence, further investigation soon convinces us, that we have mistaken a creature of the imagination for a reality.

But how far the knowledge of the internal changes, so far as the appreciable side of the disease is thereby to be understood, is estimated and practically regarded by the Homœopathist, we will endeavour briefly to represent.

When the substratum of the symptoms may be known and is of unquestionable reality, for instance, the inflammation of an internal organ, its degeneration, &c., this knowledge is no less important for the Homœopathist than for the physician of the old school, yet it is employed differently, arising from the divergence of the two methods. The old school regards the symptoms only

cause of the disease, is to us inscrutable. It can only be conjectured by science, the flower which it puts forth is the mark at which we aim, and not the soil from which it springs."

"The internal cause of disease is as little cognizable to us, as the cause of life itself, and as a sound physiology is satified with the comprehension of the laws of healthy vitality; so medicine that is truly practical, needs not as its great aim, a knowledge of the internal cause."

* That the investigation of the nature or essense of diseases is to be totally neglected (as Hahnemann inculcates), is no article of belief with the Homœopathists. A sense of internal want, an innate desire of investigating hidden causes, urges the human mind to make even the apparently inscrutable a problem of investigation. Why should we not obey this impulse? Before we are so fortunate as to attain the desired aim, however, we are not inclined to accept images and analogies, the reality of which is very doubtful, as substitutes for facts, and still less to acknowledge them as the basis of practical medicine, and as the leading motives for our method of treatment at the bed-side of the patient. All these investigations appertain to the natural sciences, and to them they should be restricted; but they are not a science to be applied like practical medicine, the aim of which, the cure of diseases, excludes the hypothetical, and should embrace only what is established.

as the means for ascertaining their cause, and the cause as the only *indicans*. Hence a subordinate value is attached to the symptoms, which exercise no immediate influence in the treatment. To the Homœopathist the ascertained cause is also an *indicans*, but it does not exclude the consideration of the symptoms, which directly influence the treatment. The knowledge of the cause enables him to select remedies which not only in *appearance* but in *character* stand in a close relation of similarity of action, with the cause of disease; if the cause, for example, be an inflammation of the brain, a Homœopathic remedy would be chosen which has a tendency to produce this pathological condition, and if the exciting cause can be traced to an abuse of spirituous liquors, a remedy would be selected which approaches the nearest in its action, to that of alcohol. But for the further determination which particular remedy to select out of the several which have this tendency, we are governed by the aggregate of the symptoms and we believe the treatment to be thereby more appropriate, since there are various finer shades in the symptoms not traceable to their cause,* and considered by the old school non-essential, but which we regard in a different light, because we have experienced that a remedy agreeing with the principal character of the disease, is remedial in *some* of the shades adverted to, while in others it is used ineffectually. This is a circumstance which is less regarded by our opponents, because their treatment is directed more by a *method* against the *genus* of the disease, while ours by *one* remedy against the variety determined by its individual character. There can be no doubt, however, that wherever the substratum of morbid condition can be known, it is a

* For example, in a rheumatic pain, the particular kind thereof, its increase or diminiution during rest, or motion, &c., the time of day when it is increased. We know not at all the substratum of a sticking pain, or a lancinating pain, of a pain relieved by rest or motion; their cause, therefore, cannot be our 'indicans.' We must, however, take a fixed and by no means insignificant modification of the cause as the basis, because we have had multiplied occasion to observe, among the various Homœopathic remedies serviceable in rheumatic pains, an essential difference in their curative virtue in the different modifications mentioned. There is further presented to us, in nervous fever, for instance, striking pathological affections of the mind, or a fixed inclination of the imagination (expressed by jealousy, the fear of death, &c.) which 'so far as they are the product of the disease', are a proper and essential expression of a particular form of morbid action, of whose nature, however, we possess not the slightest knowledge, and which cannot be employed for a practical purpose in any other possible way, but by opposing the symptom; we, therefore, select from among the remedies, corresponding to the character of the disease, that particular one which has the symptom jealousy, the fear of death, &c.

matter of essential reference to the Homœopathist in his treatment, and, therefore, the conception of a causal cure (considered in its practical results) is just as predicable of our treatment, as it is of the old method.

In many cases the substratum of the entire symptoms, is, for the time being at least, inscrutable, and we are able to indicate, more or less fully only the cause of individual, disjointed groups of symptoms. The one group shows, for example, important affections of the cerebral system, the other a great disturbance of the ganglionic system, the third the sufferings of parts of the latter expressing themselves in particular; but the actual state of our knowledge affords us just as little of a clear motive divested of hypothesis, to refer these symptoms to a definite total-substratum, as to consider the one or the other as the principle affection. Under these circumstances our attention is confined to the partial substratum, and at the same time to the totality of the symptoms.

Hereby is implied no essential difference, *in toto*, with the old medical school, because many of their most notable practitioners proceed upon the same views, which we consider superfluous any further to enlarge upon.

(To be continued.)

AMERICAN HOMŒOPATHIC LITERATURE.

1.—The Characteristics of Homœopathia. (From Hahnemann's "*Geist der homoeopathischen Heillehre.*") By H. B. Gram, C. M. L. New York, 1825.

2.—A concise view of the rise and progress of Homœopathic Medicine. By Constantine Hering, M. D. Translated from the German by Charles F. Matlack, M. D. Philadelphia 1833.

3.—The same in German.

4.—Letter to the physicians of France on Homœopathia. By the Count de Guidi, M. D. Translated by W. Channing, M. D. New York, 1835.

5.—A concise view of the principles of Homœopathia. By the Baron de Brunnow of Dresden: with introductory remarks in presenting this exposition in English, to the New York Homœopathic Society. By John L. Sullivan, A. M. 1835.

6.—A popular view of Homœopathy. By the Rev. J. Everest, Rector of Wickwar; Gloucestershire, Eng.

We refer the reader to a notice of the above works to the four numbers of the American Journal of Homœopathia, edited by John F. Gray, M. D. and A. Gerald Hull, M. D., New York, 1835—36. Many valuable papers have been published in this Journal, and as there are still some copies on hand, we invite the friends of Homœopathy to possess themselves of them.

The contents are the following: No. 1. The Characteristics of Homœopathia. History of Homœopathia. Asiatic Cholera. Homœopathic treatment of Cholera. On the value of the speculative systems of medicine by Hahnemann. Homœopathic experience by Dr. Schüler. Attempt of M. Andral to practice Homœopathia.—No. 2. On the value of the speculative systems of medicine, by S. Hahnemann, concluded. On the Homœopathic Doses of medicines. Extracts from an address to the Gallican Homœopathic Society, by Dr. Peschier of Geneva with cases of practice. Translated by J. L. Sullivan, A. M. Fatal Blow to Homœopathism in Russia. Homœopathic Treatment in the Hospital at Liege. Cases from Dr. Bute. Abstract of the Effects of Silicea. Homœopathic Intelligence. — No. 3. Hahnemann's Essay on Coffee. Abstract of the Effects of Silicea. On the Homœopathic Doses of Medicines. A survey of Homœopathia by J. L. Rau, M. D. Legal Regulations of the Imperial Russian Medical Police, at St. Petersburg, in reference to the Practice of Homœopathy. Official Report of Dr. Hermann, upon the Experiment of Homœopathic Treatment, at the military Hospital of Sulzyn, in Padolia, undertaken by order of His Majesty the Emperor Nicholas I. Homœopathic Treatment of Hemicrania. By Francis Hartman, M. D. The Confessions of an Allopathist. Remarks on the Abracadabra of the Nineteenth Century, or Dr. Hahnemann's Homœopathic medicine, by William Leo Wolf, M. D., New York 1835. Homœopathic Intelligence. — No. 4. Practical observations. By C. Seidel, military Physician. Homœopathic Treatment of Intermittent fevers. By Francis Hartman, M. D. American Editor's Remarks on the foregoing. Practical Remarks upon Sepia. By Dr. Griesselich. A popular

view of Homœopathy, &c. By the Rev. F. Everest, Rector of Wickwar, Eng. Preamble of the Constitution of the New York Homœopathic Society. Homœopathic Intelligence.

Our limits will only permit us, to glance at the contents of the following works. To some of them we shall recurr on a future occasion.

7.—*Ueber die Nothwendigkeit und den Nutzen der Homoeopathik, gesprochen bei Eroeffnung der Nordamerikanischen Akademie der homoeopathischen Heilkunst zu Allentown an der Lecha, den 27. May* 1835, *von* Constantin Hering, M. D.

The speech of Dr. Hering, delivered at the opening of the Homœopathic Academy at Allentown.

8.—*Correspondenzblatt der homœopathischen Aerzte, herausgegeben durch die Nordamerikanische Akademie d. homoeopathischen Heilkunst, zu Allentown an der Lecha,* 14 *numbers.* 1835—36.

Journal of Correspondence of the Homœopathic physicians. This Journal being at present the only record of American Homœopathic practice the experience of which ought to be preserved, we intend to furnish our readers in one of our next numbers with an abstract of some of the most interesting cases.

9.—Treatise upon a new manner of medical practice, called Homœopathie, elucidated by comparing the high station of Homœopathie with the usual mode of practice, called Allopathie; dedicated to our patients and the friends of truth and humanity. By J. G. Rosenstein, M. D., allied in practice with two skilful Homœopathic physicians M. Biegler and M. Seitz. Albany, 1836.

10.—On Homœopathic Medicine, illustrating its superiority over the other medical doctrines, with an account of the regimen to be followed during the treatment of diseases. By M. Croserio, M. D., President of the Homœopathic Society of Paris, &c. Translated from the French with notes by C. Neidhard, M. D. Philadelphia, 1837.

A distinguished physician, who had practiced on the old system for thirty years, publishes here the falsity of his former creed. Contents: On health and disease. Origin of Homœopathy. Division of diseases. On the causes of diseases. Diagnosis of diseases. Prognosis of diseases. Treatment. On Homœopathic medicines. On the doses of Homœopathic medicines and the manner of administering them. On the preparation of Homœopathic medicines. On the examination

of the sick and the choice of remedies. On Homœopathic Diet.

11.—Organon of Homœopathic Medicine, by S. Hahnemann. First American from the British Translation of the 4th German Edition, with improvements and additions from the 5th, by the North American Academy of the Homœopathic healing art. Allentown, 1836.

For an explanation of some of the doctrines of Hahnemann, which have been so much misrepresented by the adversaries of Homœopathy, see the 18 Theses of Dr. Wolf at the head of our Journal.

12.—Jahr's Manual of Homœopathic medicine. Translated from the German with an introduction by C. Hering, M. D. Four parts, 1836—37.

The most complete guide to the Homœopathic practitioner. It contains an abstract of the symptoms of 200 remedies as observed on the healthy and the diseases hitherto cured by them.

13.—The Homœopathist or Domestic physician. By C. Hering. In 2 parts, 1835—38.

Contents of 1st part: Of the principal causes of diseases. A. Of affections of the mind. B. Of colds. C. Of overheating, immoderate exertion, and exhaustion. D. Surfeit of the stomach. E. Consequences of spirituous liquors and tobacco. F. Consequences of medicine hitherto in vogue. G. Of poisoning. H. Poisoning of wounds. I. Of Hurts. Second part: On diseases which are most common.

14.—A familiar exposition of Homœopathia, or the new mode of curing diseases, illustrating its superiority over the prevalent system of medicine. By Jonas Green, M. D. Philadelphia, 1836.

15.—Homœopathia revealed. A brief exposition of the whole system, adapted to general comprehension. With a notice of Psora and Dr. Duringes objections. By Alexis Eustaphieve. New York, 1837.

Celebration of Dr. Hahnemann's 83d Birth-day at Paris.

Paris, Feb. 22. My friend C. called on me a few days ago, and offered to conduct me to a festival, which was to be held in honour of a celebrated German. In vain I guessed and inquired, who it was, he would not gratify my curiosity; I stepped into the carriage, without knowing, where it was to conduct me. When we had arrived at the Chaussee d'Antin, he told me at last "we go to Dr. Hahnemann; to-day (19th Feb.) is the celebration of his 83d Birth-day; you will here have an opportunity of correcting your opinion respecting the actual state of Homœopathy in Paris." De Milan Street, where Hahnemann resides, was filled, as is usual at great soirées, to the right and left with private carriages and hackney-coaches. "The father of Homœopathy," observed my friend, "has, as you perceive a splendid residence;" we passed through a gate and court-yard, to a Hotel surrounded by a garden, occupied by Hahnemann alone; from here we entered a large saloon on the first floor, already crowded by the beau monde of Paris; in the middle of which stood a marble bust, ornamented with a golden laurel crown and with wreaths of the flowers of Cicuta, Belladonna and Digitalis. "This," said C. "is the bust of Hahnemann, and with this golden crown of laurel it has been ornamented to-day in the celebration of his Birth-day by his grateful disciples and friends." On both ends of the crown, hanging over the shoulders, were engraved distinguished names from all countries of Europe and America. *

* Mr. Joly of Paris, well known by his successful treatment of the plague at Constantinople, has on passing lately through this city on his way to Canada, had the kindness to furnish us, with some of the above interesting details respecting the celebration, at which he was present, and also with the names inscribed on the laurel-crown of Hahnemann's Bust. Among them we find the following: Autraigner, Arles-Dufour, Arnaud, Bigel, Briouse (author of the poem dedicated to Hahnemann), Croserio, Davet, Deligny (President de la societe de l'instruction universelle et de l'emancipation intellectuelle), Count des Guidi, Dessaix, Gernon, Joly, Juvin, Lafisse, Lafitte, Laville de la Plaigue, Lebourcher, Libert, Luther (author of an English treatise on Homœopathy), Molier (formerly physician to the springs of Luxemburg), Mouzin, Perrussel, Picard, Rapou, Rouge, Simon, Tisseire, Theuille of France; Belluomini, Curie (editor of a homœopathic Journal), Harris Dunsford, Lord Elgin, Everest, Leaf, Quin of London; Bonninghausen, Hering, Jahr &c. of Germany and America; Biginelli, Chatron, Chio of Piemont; Korsakoff of Russia; Malaise, De Moor, Varleze of Belgium; Mure (editor of an Italian Homœopathic Journal) of Palermo; Sinibaldi of Rom; Peschier (editor of the "Bibliotheque homœopathique") of Geneva; and Sipos of Hungary. Nd.

The bust is a work of David, who, himself a zealous adherent of Homœopathy, was present at this festival. When C. introduced me to him, this unassuming and amiable artist, as well as man of genius told me, that he knew and esteemed the Germans, that he had travelled in Germany several years ago, and that his attachment to them was much heightened by his personal intercourse: he deemed himself fortunate in having been instrumental to hand down to posterity the busts of two great Germans. Whilst I conversed with David about Bœrne, whom he designated with emotion his dear friend, Hahnemann in the full vigor of health, looking more like 63 than 83 years of age, entered the saloon upon the arm of his lady, (also much distinguished for her high intellectual powers), and warmly welcomed his guests. One of the first Homœopathic physicians of Paris, Dr. Leon Simon now took the noble old gentleman by the hand and conducted him in front of the bust crowned with garlands, proclaiming to him in an animated speech *immortality*. He was followed by French and Italian poets with poems, written for the occasion, after which German musical virtuosi like Kalkbrenner, Panofka, Hate delighted the company with their performances. (It must indeed have been a thrilling moment, comprehended perfectly only by those, who have deeply meditated on the incalculable benefits that posterity will derive from the greatest discovery of this age.) On our return C. said: "You have seen, how many Americans, Englishmen and Italians attended this festival and what class of Frenchmen believe in Homœopathy. Hahnemann realizes annually from his practice alone not less than 200,000 francs. You know now, where he resides; do me the favour and call to-morrow morning at his house, and you will see, how it stands with the faith in Hahnemann and his art." Arriving the following morning in Hahnemann's Hotel I found the court-yard and stairs filled with poor persons, whom Hahnemann treats gratis, and in the anti-chambers I counted no less than 15 persons.

Dr. J. M^c^Naughton's Address, on the Homœopathic System of Medicine. Febr. 6, 1838.

The perusal of this pamphlet can be justly recommended to the friends of Homœopathy, as well as to its enemies. The first must be struck with the observation, that if an opponent of Homœopathy admits so many of its vital principles, the whole must be true; for truth like life, is nothing half or divisible. The enemy of Homœopathy may be induced to read it, because he is naturally more inclined to pay attention to whatever must appear to him as coming from an impartial source, imperfect as it may appear to the connoiseur of Homœopathy. To those, however, who study men and characters, it presents the instructive phenomenon of a conscience smitten by the power of truth, but of a character too deeply entangled in the mazes of prejudice to yield to the impulses of his better judgment. How few are gifted with that moral courage which scorns the sneer of the numerous supporters of fashionable errors, and which braves the sectarian hatred of professions. This is precisely the case with the author of the address. He has endeavoured to give, what he supposes to be a candid exposition of the principles of Homœopathy and charges the profession to investigate its claims "fairly;" but as if afraid of having said too much in its favour, he adds a redeeming note to the pamphlet, an appendage, which looks very much like the foxe's tail, so far carefully concealed.

But dubious as his claims to candour are, still more questionable are they to correctness both as a reporter and a reasoner.

Page 18, the author though "an initiated," shows that he has not comprehended even the first principle of Homœopathy, for he asks: "since eating clams and other shell-fish cause an eruption, will they cure the Itch?" He could never have asked that question if he understood the law: *similia similibus*; for according to this, clams and other shell-fish could only be expected to cure the Itch, *if they produced an eruption, which bears all the specific characteristics of the Itch*; or are in the Dr.'s pathology, perhaps all eruptions alike? Since then the Dr. misunderstands the fundamental principle of Homœopathy, it follows: that wherever he does not speak simply as a reporter, but attempts to draw inferences, he must be wrong, which we will illustrate only by a few examples,

though such errors are so numerous that the refutation of them all, would fill a book.

On the same page he tries to prejudice the profession against Homœopathic treatment, on account of the remedies employed "aggravating for a time the symptoms." If the Dr. did know, or understand, the §§. 156—159 in Hahnemann's Organon, * this argument would be another instance of his candour; but be that as it may, does it really prove what it is intended to, even granting those aggravations to be in reality as serious as they appear to him? What else does *he* do, than aggravate the symptoms, at least "for a time," and certainly much longer and severer than ever is the case in Homœopathic practice, when administering "laxatives in diarrhœa," or "emetics in spontaneous vomiting, r. 11?" Thus according to the author we are to believe that Allœopathy *may* cure diseases by producing violent aggravation, but not so Homœopathy, by causing slight increase of pain.

In Allœopathy the author explains this proceding satisfactorily at least to himself, if not to others, by considering it as an assistant to the *vis medicatrix naturae*, p. 11; but in Homœopathy he must call the "Killkenney—cats" to aid (p. 17) in the explanation of such manifest mystery! Thus does the lawyer put whatever construction on the law that may serve his peculiar purpose best; so the Dr. makes his interpretation of nature subservient to his views, and, to fit her snugly in his system, depends on her possessing the suppleness voracity and destructiveness of the Killkenny cats."

The statements p. 20, concerning Belladonna, Drosera, Gold, and Aconitum, are false; for they are by no means recommended as specifics in the unlimited sense as represented by the author. These remedies when applied in accordance with the Homœopathic fundamental law, will certainly prove specifics in all cases to which they are analagous, or homœopathically adapted; hence Belladonna *only in such cases of scarlet fever* with which it homœopathically corresponds, and the same with Drosera in whooping cough, Gold in melancholy, and Aconitum in inflammatory fevers. It either betrays ignorance or malice to make such statements as mentioned p. 20; for if other practitioners, induced by these erronious reports and guided by nothing else than such easy, but false rules of superficial *routiniers*, they necessarily

* First American Edition. P. 156—157. Philad. Kay & Brother, Chesnut st.

must prove failures, and Homœopathy will have to bear the blame, no matter how inexperienced or ignorant the experimenter may have been.

That there are quacks in Homœopathy as well as in Allœopathy can be no charge against either; but no sooner do we hear of the failures of first beginners or even of bunglers in Homœopathy, than the *system*, not the *practitioner*, is accused for the want of success. This is applicable to the Dr's. own trials. Imperfect as his knowledge of Homœopathy is, he undertakes to prescribe Homœopathic remedies and confesses p. 22, of having "been struck with the rapid recovery" of his patients in some cases, whilst in others he thought it better to abandon it (the Homœopathic system) for remedies with the effect of which he "*was better acquainted.*" We wonder that he met with any success at all, more so, as p. 28—30, he puts Homœopathy on the same level with the empricism of Allœopathy. He calls it "a system of physic made easy to the meanest capacity:" which may be practiced by persons totally ignorant of the structure and functions of the human body, &c.—If in Homœopathy the herculean task was really accomplished, that of having the practice of physic reduced to such noble simplicity and mathematical certainty as to be made "easy to the meanest capacity," would it not be one of the greatest blessings that ever was bestowed on the world, the *ne plus ultra* of medical sciences? Any seaman, no matter how indifferent his talents are, can at present, by the aid of his tables, find out the geographical position of his vessel; are then mathematics and astronomy degraded by the fact, that men of common capacity are able to solve such difficult questions by means of these sciences? As Homœopathy even in the hands of bunglers "strikes with wonder at the rapid recovery which it effects," it certainly must be much nearer to that high state of perfection than Allœopathy, which often proves an instrument of murder in the hands of Empirics, though we can easily show "to the meanest capacity," (but perhaps not to the Dr's.) that all the real science of the old system and a good deal *more* is required for a Homœopathic physician. As the opponents of Homœopathy rarely fight with fair weapons against it (which must reflect suspicion on their own cause), so have they also misconstrued Hahnemann's contempt for the illusion of speculative medicine and extended it over the solid and practical discipline of physic, in order to detract from Homœopathy the claim to science and

learning. Hahnemann, inspired from the eminent import of an idea, the historical influence of which is progressing with gigantic steps, did not shape and smooth his words to make them gently glide down the current of every day's parley, not disturbing its sweet but sleepy murmuring; nay his words fell like thunder bolts from the sky of a bright mid day, crushing to the very quick the medical bigots, who writhing in their impotence, sought for revenge in—slander!

How could the true Homœopathist pretend (and never did he do so), to judge on deviations and disturbances in structure and functions (diseases) of the human system, without understanding its normal structure and functions, as taught in anatomy, physiology and pathology? If Homœopathists in their practice are guided chiefly by the aggregate of symptoms (by no means "detached" as the Dr. will have it, p. 30,) by what means are they to appreciate or interpret those symptoms; how are they to classify them, both according to their causal *nexus* and respective importance, if not by physiology and pathology? Though the "repertorium" may assist a beginner in Homœopathy to find out, for instance, remedies for a head-ache—which example the Dr. selects himself, to prove that Homœopathy is easy to the meanest capacity—it still leaves not only the generical decision to him, which of these remedies are applicable to a gastric, nervous, rheumatic, arthritic, traumatic, &c. head-ache: but also the diagnosis of the specific form of any given case of these different head-aches; which demands infinitely more accurate knowledge and judgment, than to write an empirical prescription, guided by nothing but the *probatum est* of some of the thousand different infallible systems of therapeutics! The same may be said in regard to the other medical disciplines. If then the Dr. with his contemptible and incorrect idea of Homœopathy, discarding the assisting branches of medicine, or using them so indiscriminately as mentioned p. 18—28; we say, if the Dr. thus mechanically, not with the skill and judgment of a member of the profession, but bunglingly as any "Jew pedler," or "discharged Valet de Chambre", p. 30, could do, attempted to experiment in Homœopathy: who is to blame if he failed, and what inferences are we to draw from such failure? No other than, that the Dr., who very honestly confesses himself to be one of the "*initiated*" in Homœopathy, is either a scholar of indifferent capacity, on whom the master's labor is lost; or his preceptor must be a false apostle

of Homœopathy, whose lamp glows with the deceptive light of the ignis-fatuus. We must "for the present forbear," p. 30, to continue this comment on the Dr.s ingenious composition, and we conclude with the expression of sincere gratitude for the Dr.s zeal in exposing "the impositions practised *in the name of Homoeopathy*," though with regret not being able to pledge ourselves to the same service in regard to the impositions practised in the name and *sanction* of Allœopathy, for *their* name is—legion, whilst in Homœopathy we count but a few indifferent sporadic cases.

G. Lingen.

Review of some remarks on Homœopathy contained in the Introductory Lecture of the Professor of Materia Medica, in the University of Pennsylvania, Nov. 6, 1837.

"'T is slander
Whose edge is sharper, than the sword; whose tongue
Out venoms all the worms of Nile; whose breath
Rides on the posting winds, and doth belie
All corners of the world."

Shksp. Cymb. Act. III. Sc. IV.

The above mentioned pamphlet would, like many an abler one, have been suffered, to run its ephemeral career unmolested by comment; if it were not for the junior members of the profession, which it is intended to prejudice against Homœopathy.

The student of medicine above all others, ought to become acquainted with the true spirit of Homœopathy, which has nothing in common with the burlesque phantom depicted by cold hearted malice and envy. Egotism, that damper of rising genius, tells us: "the age of heroic deeds" has passed away; be it known then, that the spirit of Homœopathy is heroism of the noblest kind! Hahnemann and many of his disciples subject themselves, even at the present day, to experiments, in order to ascertain the positive effects of medicines on the human system, instead of the fictions of the old Materia Medica. Thus the student is taught

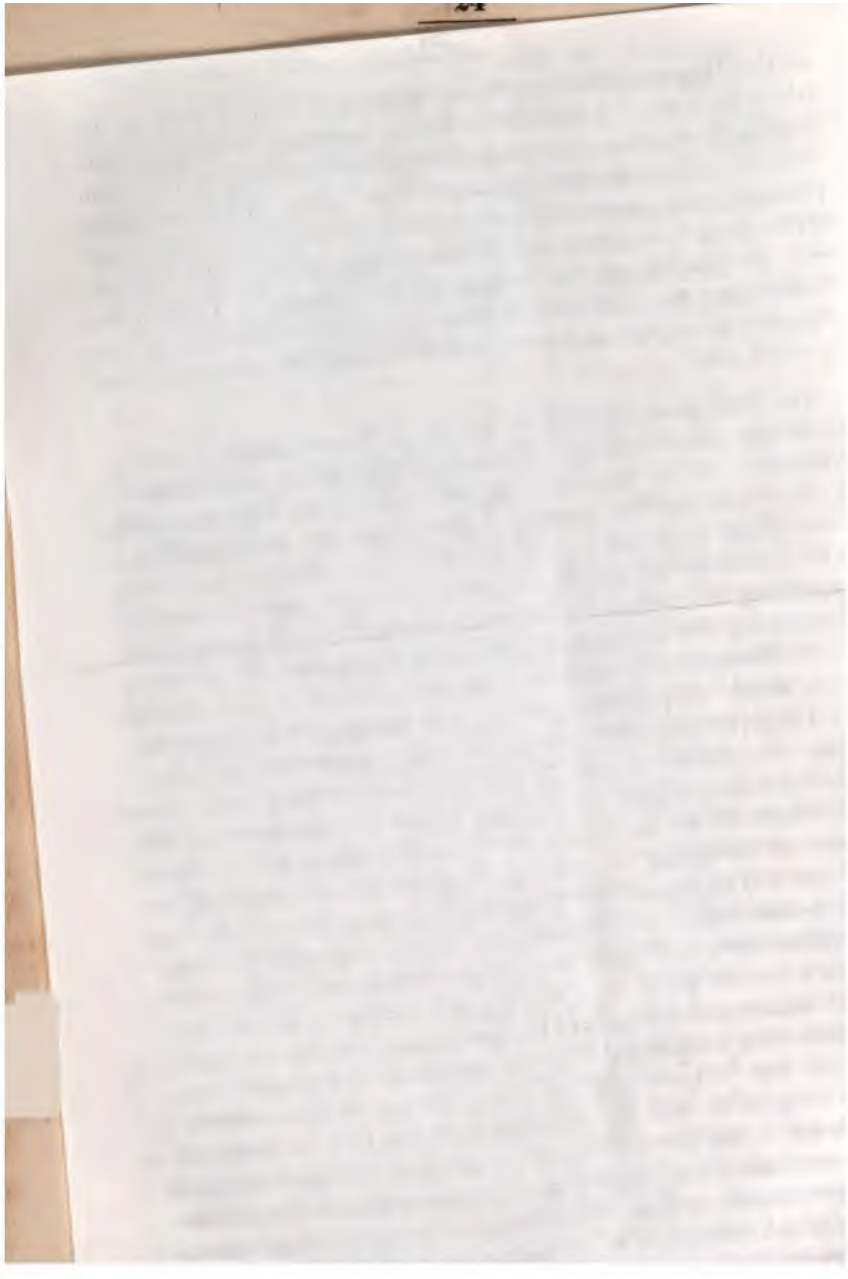
to exercise his talent of observation, the most important amongst the constituents of a physician, first on his own person; a method, admirably calculated, to impress him with horror against the inroads upon the vital powers, so often attending the common mode of exhibiting medicines. — Before Hahnemann, Materia Medica was but a dead historic science, if it deserves the epithet of science at all; it is he, not "Mons. Louis," p. 13, who first broke the bondage of vague traditions and manifest falsehood (sanctioned only by age) by giving to the world a Materia Medica founded on experiments and facts.— However, let us now hear what the professor has to say against Homœopathy.

It appears that his own "short sightedness," p. 6, prevented him from "penetrating" Homœopathy; hence he substitutes, "with all the insolence of office," abuse for argument, and as if distrusting his own abilities, he uses the wornout trick of a *captio benevolentiae* and appeals to the good sense of his audience, to find out "the monstrous absurdities" of that childish hallucination "called Homœopathy," p. 13. This, indeed, is a fair specimen of what the professor does style "entering the Baconian path" of "rigid scrutiny" or drawing "inference so hedged round by various defences as to be almost unassailable," and which he says has "*at length* (!) become *the fashion*" amongst medical men! To couple fashion and science, how profane, how shallow! But since it is said to be so, let us see whether the professor really is in the Baconian "fashion" or not. Bacon says: "*Scientia et potentia humana in idem coincidunt, ... quod in contemplatione instar causae est; id in operatione instar regulae est.*" *Nov. orig. I.* 3. According to this, it would have been in true Baconian spirit, to prove the fallacy of Homœopathy by practical demonstration, showing evidence that the science of Homœopathy, (*scientia Homoeopathiae*) does not invest us with that power (*potentia*) over disease which it claims. But instead of doing so, he declares Homœopathy at once a "childish hallucination," and makes himself and his audience merry about "its little fist," which, he says, it shakes at the giant of disease. What a glorious display of rhetorical talent, and what force of argument! Grand, however, as the effect must have been, which this brilliant demonstration of the Baconian method of "scrutinizing and inferring" produced on the medical class; we cannot but marvel, that even some enemies of Homœopathy have not become convinced by such overpowering arguments: See Professor McNaughton's Address

on the Homœopathic system of medicine, Albany, 1838, p. 13, where he says: "It will not do for the members of the profession to wrap themselves up in their dignity, and to call the new system absurd, without further enquiry. The history of the profession presents many lamentable instances of the obstinacy with which errors have been clung to, and improvements resisted. Harvey was persecuted by the college of Physicians of London for maintaining the doctrine of the circulation of the blood, and Jenner was laughed at, for proposing vaccination as a preventive of small pox."

The part most objected to by the professor, seems, however, to be the minuteness of the doses employed in Homœopathic treatment; let us, therefore, analyse what he says on that point. p. 14: "Can any one possibly believe, that the decillionth of a grain of any medicine kept in the shops, a portion far too minute to be visible to the naked eye, and which the most powerfully magnifying microscope would be insufficient to detect, is capable of producing the slightest impression on the system?" Granted that all Homœopathic medicines are administered in such minute doses, which we possitively deny to be the case, what absurdity would it be, to conclude: what's invisible can produce no effect! Hence magnetism, electricity and galvanism which "the most powerfully magnifying microscope would be insufficient to detect," (!) would be no active agents. We might by the same manner of reasoning be induced to doubt the existence of the professor's "Lilliputian blows" against Homœopathy; because the *causa prima*, which set his brain into operation (though the latter unquestionably would show to more advantage under the microscope), is looked for in vain through that medium. But the professor's remarks on the doses of Homœopathic remedies also prove how little he is acquainted with the subject he is anathematizing. Whoever has a knowledge of the literature of Homœopathy, knows very well, that the adaptation of the dose to individual cases is left to the discretion of the physician; the observation of the Homœopathic law: *similia similibus curantur*, not the minutenes of the prescribed dose, constitutes the Homœopathic practice; the decillionth doses are by no means the *conditio sine qua non*, though every Homœopathic practitioner can furnish facts, which prove their efficacy.

The author says very honestly p. 14: "the *only* hold of Homœo-



pathy upon public favor is its (apparent) success." We wonder what *other* "hold upon public favor" the professor would suggest? The public certainly may congratulate themselves, for being able to grant favor upon such good grounds; for such favor "is twice blessed; it blesseth him that gives and him that takes."

Again on the same page he says: "Homœopathy must fall into immediate disgrace, if its claims to great practical success *can be upset*." Aye! "there's the rub!" but "facts are stubborn things," particularly with so practical a people as the Americans. And how much wiser would it have been, if the professor had saved his abuse, at least until "those claims to great practical success" really *had* been "upset." Nothing but its "practical success," that great stumbling block of the professor (no "parading" of cures in newspapers, see p. 15 & 17), has won Homœopathy so many ardent advocates, most of whom had emptied the bitter cup of Allœopathy filled to its very brim; or they were parents, who gladly availed themselves of Homœopathy to become released from the necessity of bribing their children to swallown auseous drugs, or, *horribile dictu!* to whip a dying child to make it take the medicine.

Page 16 we are told, that the "success of Homœopathists is also to be attributed to the influence of new and strange processes upon the mind of the patient." It is too well known that the charm of novelty is of short duration, so that if Homœopathy did not stand on its own intrinsic merit, the illusion would have passed away, the magic curtain would have dropped, during an interval of 5 or 6 years trial in a great number of respectable and intelligent families of this city, who have adopted it, ever since its first introduction into the country. Moreover, these remarks are entirely inapplicable to children and animals, where there is no imagination to work on, and by far the greater number of patients do not trouble themselves about the theory of any medical system, and yet are benefitted by Homœopathy.

Page 17: "the occasional triumphs of the Homœopathist" are owing "to the remaining influence of previous regular treatment." Since the professor speaks only of "*occasional* triumphs'" and as this point is naturally involved in much obscurity; it is useless to mention it at all; but certain it is, that it reflects little credit on a treatment, which exhausts
as to compel him, to offer to the He

for such "*occasional* triumphs." And so frequent are these opportunities, that many a Homœopathic practitioner, by that method solely, became acquainted with the names of many, so called, eminent physicians, long before he ever knew there were such persons in existence. *Exempla sunt odiosa!* — But since the professor ill-naturedly will mention misrepresented facts, we will serve him with a counter-part to his case of Amenorrhœa. It is a case of Rheumatism, which under a certain gentleman's direction terminated with the obliteration of an important joint by Anchylosis, and thus deprived a helpless women of the use of a limb on which she depended for her livelihood. This "remaining influence of previous regular treatment" was rather too much for the Homœopathist, who on that occasion became first acquainted with that worthy's name. — Shall we mention the many limbs doomed already to the knife, yet saved by Homœopathy? We can furnish dates and names — but no, we would write no *chronique scandaleuse*, if not compelled by self-defence.

Such then are the reasons upon which the professor holds himself entitled to call several thousand respectable citizens, most of them his equals and many his superiors, "dupes" and Homœopathy an "imposture!" Is it not incompatible with a moral character, with the character of a gentleman, to offer such high insult, so badly vindicated, to fellow citizens? Who else but an intruder into the republic of science would assail those, whom HE (what ponderous authority!) considers heretics, with all the missles of language, as dictated by the fanaticism of an inquisitor? We leave it to the public to answer these questions for themselves, and only add, that we look upon that morbid production as a pathological phenomenon, readily to be accounted for, by the following rationale: —

A compiler of a Materia Medica of old style and "fashion" becomes so habituated and wedded to the "*dolce far niente*" of "*jurare in verba magistri*," that he is kept spell-bound within the magic circle of the authorities he clings to, and finally becomes identified with them, like the story-teller, who in the progress of time actually believes in his own fictions. Hence the professor presents his self-created authority to his disciples, and solely on such grou[illegible] on Homœopathy; and true to it[illegible] soiled his hand by daring [illegible]ad: he also

is struggling for fame, by endeavoring to disgrace Hahnemann and his disciples. Time will show, whether such a violation of truth will not meet with the just reward which it deserves.

G. Lingen.

THE HUMBUGS OF NEW YORK,

BY

David M. Reese, M. D.

"A fellow by the hand of nature marked,
Quoted, and signed, to do a deed of shame."
Shaksp. King John.

"When Pythagoras discovered that celebrated thesis, which is named after him, he offered to the gods a hecatombe; (consisting of a hundred oxen) hence ever since the oxen tremble at any newly discovered truth."* What wonder then, that Hahnemann's discovery should shake with terror the ignorant, or rouse to war the malevolent amongst the sons of Æsculapius! Indeed, numerous as the opponents of Homœopathy have been, but very few of them have in their warfare against it proved themselves either scholars, or gentlemen; nay by the far majority have attacked it with such plebeian vulgarity, that we might be induced to rate the standard of education amongst the medical profession exceedingly low. It is entirely owing to this fact, that the public as well as the champions of Homœopathy have scarcely noticed the puerile productions, emanating, from such sources and from the Simonian blackguardism down to Wm. Leo Wolfe's voluminous and plagiaristic book of scandal, all have already sunk into oblivion, or have become silenced by the deeds of Homœopathy.

Bearing that same plebeian stamp, lame in wit and void of logic, is the assault against Homœopathy and its practitioners, contained in Dr. R's Collection of the Humbugs of New York. There is so little originality in this article on Homœopathy, and it bears so strong a family resemblance to most of the similar

* Börne.

productions hitherto published, that the foregoing Review might serve as an answer, to whatever requires to be noticed at all. One great original merit, however, which it is but justice to mention, is the author's skill in dealing in New York-slang which he speaks as fluently as a Huckster-woman.—It would be taxing our readers' patience to much, too expect him to follow us into the details, which an exposition of all the falsehoods of this Author of Humbugs would require; a few remarks will suffice, He raves against Hahnemann's dogma about the Itch and yet was there ever a more striking example of its sovereign truth than this very humbug-book? What else but the Itch for authorship, decidedly the most loathsome of its various forms, could ever have called forth this humbug-scribbling? Surely it could not have been, that the author was prompted to dispose in this way of *his learning* or his "learned lumber," because neither of them seems to burden his brain. For on the very first page where he commences his "animadversion" he speaks of "that German *savar!*" *Quid est?* We presume he means savant. How strongly that *savours* of the deep linguist. — Page 99 he gives a specimen of his pharmaceutical learning, where he speaks of "Byonia juice'' instead of Bryonia.— Ah ye printers devil, what disgrace do you entail upon an Author, how sadly you do mystify the glory of scholarship, won by "patient industry and thankless labour," page 101.—By the by, speaking of "thankless labours" it strikes us, that it is quite likely that the author, judging from his eminent acquirements, belongs himself to those, "who have failed to acquire either fame or emolument in the regular practice," p. 100, which induces him to vent his spleen and fill up his time by writing idle books.

The favorite topic for the "animadversion" of this father of the New York Humbugs is constantly revolving on the "infinitesimal doses," or "portions," which displays his profoundness both in Logic and Mathematics; for an "infinitesimal portion" is in Logics a *Contradictio in objectu*, and in practical Mathematics an *Impossibile*. Another example of his peculiar acute and philosophical turn of mind his the following: he swells is book by filling several pages with cyphers, copied from an "anonymous publication, p. 92—94" to prove that the Homœopathists want 10,000 Adriatic seas "to attain their infinite dilutions," and giving immediately afterwards, p. 96, a pretty correct description of the simple method by which the Homœopathic medicines are pre-

pared, exposes himself the absurdity of such idle calculations.— Having thus drawn you, gentle reader, a rapid sketch, of this Genius of "animadversion," by giving you samples of his classical, medical and philosophical acquirements, you may, perhaps, become induced to believe us, that in said article on Homœopathy, there is not a single page without either a barefaced falsehood, malicious misrepresentation or gross ignorance, easily to be proved as such, if the space would allow it.

From the general tenor and language of the whole book, it is evident, that the author belongs to the tribe of *Croakers* and for sundry reasons methinks to the species Rana (frog) which, as is well known, labours under a characteristic hoarseness, so often successfully cured in the human subject by Homœopathic doses of charcoal or silex; which we, therefore, with most sincere collegiate affection, would recommend to the author's trial, if it were not rather a perilous experiment *for him.* For the Dr's indignation and wrath may strike against the silex, by which the charcoal would ignite and thus subject the Humbug-Genius, who seems to be by no means fire-proof, to a process, out of which he would not rise as a phœnix, but as a vespertilio (or bat).

G. Lingen.

HOMŒOPATHIC PRACTICE OF MEDICINE.

BY

JACOB JEANES, M. D.

Philadelphia, printed by A. Waldie, No. 46 Carpenter Street, 1838.

Dedicated to Dr. Ch. F. Matlack,

Homœopathic Physician of Philadelphia.

This work, which has just issued from the press, will prove a useful guide to all those who are unacquainted with the German language. The diseases are arranged alphabetically and to each of them is added a number of explanatory cases.

Dr. Hartman of Leipsic has made the first attempt to write a Homœopathic practice of medicine, and being physician to the Leipsic H. Hospital and a Homœopathic practitioner for a con-

siderable number of years, he was undoubtedly enabled to do more justice to the subject, than many others, who had not the same opportunities. Still the work is, as we might naturally suppose, very imperfect. The present volume differs from that of Hartman by being partly a Therapie, or practice of medicine, and partly a Repertorium or valuablecollection of facts, the author not having always given a full description of diseases. He appears to have availed himself pretty much of all the Homœopathic literature within his reach, particularly that contained in the "Archiv für die hom. Heilkunst," and the volumes of Haase, Glasor, Ruckert, Hartman and Hartlaub. He has besides given cases from his own practice and his experience with the Lobelia inflata, which he was the first to try on himself and others. He employed it with advantage in Asthma, Catarrh, Dyspepsia, Intermittent fever, Hæmorrhoids, Pertussis, &c. The symptoms indicating the Lobelia in Asthma are the following: constant dyspnoea, which is increased by slight exertion and aggravated much by slight exposures to cold, so as to form a kind of asthmatic paroxysm. A sensation of oppression and weakness in the epigastrium, extending upwards from thence into the breast, with or without pyrosis. A sensation of a lump or quantity of mucus or of pressure in the pit of the throat. A pain extending round the forehead from one temple to the other, pain in the back about the lowest dorsal vertebra, pain in the left flank. High coloured urine.

The *Hygea*, a Homœopathic Journal, published since the year 1834, at Carlsruhe and some of the most recent works, as Helbig's Heraclides, &c. he appears not to have had yet an opportunity of consulting.

In conclusion we think that this work is much better calculated to induce some of the present adversaries of Homœopathy to institute trials with Homœopathic medicines than Hahnemann's Materia Medica or even Jahr's manual, for the difficulties which beset the progress of the student of these works already on the outset, has detered many from even entering the threshold of our science.

ND.

(*From DR. THORER'S Praktische Beitræge im Gebiete der Homœopathie.*)

HOMŒOPATHIC TREATMENT OF INTERMITTENT FEVER.

1) It is of the highest importance to *individualize* every case of intermittent fever most accurately. Each case offers an individual form of the disease, if we regard not only the regular succession of its paroxysms, but also the symptoms during the apyrexia.

2) An intermittent fever is cured in most cases with celerity and gentleness by a single dose of a Homœopathic remedy, in which case two circumstances may take place, the paroxysms are either repeated in rapid succession or at the unusual time, or they become gradually weaker and finally cease entirely.

3) In the Homœopathic treatment of intermittent fevers relapses occur very seldom and sequelæ in the organs of assimilation as well as hydropical affections never. In 10 cases treatedby Dr. Thorer only one relapseoccured. How often do we meet, however, with the mosttroublesome diseases following an allœopathic treatment.

4) The Homœopathic treatment of intermittent fevers can be effected at any time, without being necessary, as the old school teaches, to wait for the relapse of a certain number of paroxysms. The too early suppression of intermittent fevers is alledged as a cause of the sequelæ, whilst this fault is to be sought in the universal use of Clinchona.

5) In the Homœopathic treatment of intermittent fevers we have besides the individual symptoms present during the paroxysm, to regard also the symptoms occuring during the state of apyrexia, for by these means we are alone enabled to obtain a perfect portrait of the disease, only after the careful investigation of which the choice of the proper remedy can be effected. It is evident, therefore, how imperfect is that investigation of the disease, which only takes congnizance of the febrile state itself or the conditions of the general character of the disease, and the individual organization of the patient, and selects the remedy according to these indications alone.

Dr. Thorer communicates histories of ten cases, in corroboration of the above observations, consisting of 7 quotidian, 2 tertian

and 1 quartan Intermittent. Here follow some of these descriptions.

I.

Quotidian intermittent fever.

Miss P. 27 years of age, had the 16th of December the third attack of intermittent fever. She enjoyed in other respects pretty good health.

1) The *paroxysm* appears daily at 11 o'clock A. M. with chills lasting half an hour. The febrile stage lasts several hours and the sweating stage does not occur before night.

2) During the *apyrexia* the patient complains of head-ache, cough without expectoration, pain in the chest, bitter taste with clean tongue. The pulse is small and tranquil.

It is not seldom the case, that intermittent fevers are removed by nature unassisted, and as the patient's strength was not much diminished and no other urgent symptoms being present, requiring an immediate removal, the author, after regulating the diet, waited until the 18th Decemb. for the efforts of nature to effect the cure. But these did not take place, the paroxysms returned regularly and with the same violence, for which reason the patient received the 18th of Decemb. Pulsat. 12.

Decemb. 21. The Quotidian fever is changed with the same symptoms into a tertian. The previous day no attack occured, but to-day one has returned. As the patient had taken Pulsatilla, which had been given to him on the 18th not after, but before the attack Pulsat. 12 was repeated.

Decemb. 24. Yesterday a much slighter paroxysm of the fever with nausea, the fever only lasted an hour.

Decemb. 27. No paroxysm has occured since. The patient receives no medicine. She is only allowed animal food. She continued well.

II.

Quotidian intermittent fever, followed by nervous fever.
(Febris nervosa versatilis.)

Mrs. B. of weakly habit of body had the 7th of Jan. the first attack of intermittent fever, which regularly returned on the 8th and 9th.

1) The *paroxysm* takes place every morning at 7 o'clock, the chills last onehour, and are followed by heat, which is not so considerable as the chills.

2) In the *apyrexia* the following symptoms are present: in the night bleeding of the nose, sleep in other respects undisturbed, want of appetite, bitter taste with clean tongue and much thirst.

After having just had the third attack she received Pulsatilla 12. glob. 3 on the 9th of January.

Jan. 10. No chills this morning, little fever; in other respects the same.

Jan. 11. The intermittent fever has suddenly changed into a nervous fever. The patient has become delirious and very restless in the night, of which she has no recollection in the morning. She throws herself about in the bed with flying heat, picking of the bed clothes, much thirst with only slightly accelerated pulse, her motions and answers are very violent, with apparent consciousness. Although formerly her hearing was good, she hears now with difficulty. She received Bryonia 21.

Jan. 12. Last night less restless and on the whole much better, thirst still great; no fever. In the morning she is more tranquil and has no picking of the bed cloths.

Jan. 13 and 14. Every thing better. Sleeps and rests well. All functions have returned to their normal state. She hears well again.

Jan. 17. The patient is now entirely well. As health returned without any disturbance, there was no state of reconvalescence, and a nervous fever already so far advanced, and combined with such a high state of irritation was removed by one remedy.

III.

Tertian intermittent fever.

Juliana L. consulted Dr. H. on the 10th of Nov. She had already had three attacks of tertian intermittent fever.

1) The *paroxysm* occurs every third day at 8 o'clock in the morning, it commences with chills, which are in half an hour succeeded by flushes of heat, after which two hours afterwards a moderate prespiration ensues.

2) In the *apyrexia* she complains of giddiness in the head and pain in the stomach. Although the tongue is clean she feels no inclination to eat. All other functions are normal.

The few symptoms which could be gathered from the patient appeared to indicate Pulsatilla, of which remedy she received the 12th Dil. on the 12th of Nov.

Two attacks, becoming each time slighter took place on the 14 and 15th of Nov., and the fever did not return.

Being still afflicted with giddiness and pain in the stomach, she received on the 19th of the same month another dose of Pulsat. 12, and on the 12th of Nov. on account of a diarrhœa and colic, brought on by a cold, a dose of Chamomilla 12.

On the 24th of Nov. the patient was entirely well and as in the the former case no other diseases followed. Notwithstanding her meagre diet — rye-bread and potatoes — the patient soon rapidly recovered.

ND.

(To be continued.)

PRINCIPLES.

(*From Alexis Eustaphieve's Homœopathia revealed.*)

Human skill fails in the presence of death, not because this skill is powerless against diseases, but because *death* is not *disease.*

Natural deformity, when incurable, is so not as a contingent cause of disease, but as a state of being not incompatible with health, and consequently not a disease in itself.

To keep off death until the natural termination of old age, is the requisite perfection of the healing art.

No disease is incurable, which is not preceded by a destruction of the organ affected, or a prostration of vital power.

The power of curing all diseases that are really such, is not only attainable, but implied in the very gift of life.

MEDICINE, the curing power, can only be sustained by TEMPERANCE, the health-preserving power.

The best of curative systems is that which, from its very nature, stands on the exclusive basis of temperance, and of necessity can have no other.

The principle of *vitality* is forbidden to our knowledge, and useless if known.

Vitality, whatever else it may be, is the source of that *elastic*, recoiling and reactive power, with which the animal organism is so perceptibly endowed.

Vitality, whenever deranged, becomes the source of disease.

Disease, the effect of deranged vitality, partakes of the impalpable nature of the cause.

The *impalpable* can only be cured by the *impalpable*.

Disease, as it reveals itself by its symptoms, is the sole legitimate object of the physician's study.

Absolute certainty, as regards the nature and effects of remedies, is the only principle on which they are to be administered.

Nature, unassisted, is incapable of self-cure otherwise than at the risk of exposure to new maladies.

Nature, assisted, is the sole agent that effects the cure.

Munich, September 2, 1837.

The Bavarian Chamber of Deputies has on motion of Prince Ch. von Wallerstein unanimously voted an annual contribution of 4000 florins for the Homœopathic institution, the establishment of which is mainly to be attributed to the exertions of the Prince. An extensive building has been selected for the purpose. Thus Homœopathy has become a national concern in Bavaria.

Dr. Widemann,
Counsellor for medical affairs.

EIGHTEEN THESES,

ILLUSTRATING THE PRINCIPLES OF HOMŒOPATHY, ACCORDING TO THEIR TRUE SENSE AND SCIENTIFIC ACCEPTATION, ADDRESSED TO THE FRIENDS AND OPPONENTS OF THAT METHOD OF CURE, BY DR. PAUL WOLF OF DRESDEN.

Translated from the German, by C. F. MATLACK, M. D.

(Continuation.)

IF to such a process the name of a causal cure is not granted, it must be denied on the part of such practitioners only, who treated the Asiatic cholera strictly under the belief of its being an inflammatory affection of the spinal marrow, a febris intermittens perniciosa, a primary decomposition of the blood, or according to any other of the innumerable views entertained concerning the nature, or substratum of that disease. *These* physicians would doubtless have a right to reproach the Homœopathists as well as those of the old school, for not treating the cause, if it is understood thereby, that to constitute a causal cure, a true knowledge of the cause need not be premised, but that it is sufficient to substitute an hypothesis, and to make it the basis of the medical treatment.

When the phenomena of the disease are so conditioned, that we are totally unable to discern the internal affection, we certainly pay exclusive and strict attention to the totality of the symptoms. When the substratum is ambiguous, when just as many probable reasons decide for the one as for the other, in a case for example, wherein one practitioner believes that he has a case of *plethora venosa abdominalis*, another, a nervous affection, a third, an anomalous gout, &c. we also adhere pre-eminently to the totality of the symptoms, but under such circumstances we do not wholly renounce speculation, so that if the curative end should not be attained by that process, we may also employ as *indicans*, the more plausible opinion concerning the nature of the primitive suffering.

When the totality of the symptoms presents primary and secondary groups, it is a problem with the Homœopathic physician to find that remedy which the most completely answers to the character of the suffering expressed in the first. But among several remedies which appear to him equally suited, he unquestionably selects that one, which covers in addition the most important symptoms of the secondary group (for instance, painful sensations in the head, dizziness, &c., as concomitant phenomena of a gastric affection), under the conviction that a remedy, which, together with the primary condition answers also immediately to the concomitant, is the best adapted to excite the organism to beneficial re-action. We cannot believe, that the charge of not effecting a causal cure is applicable to us, on account of entertaining these views.

We hope it will be clear to those of our opponents who are actuated by an unprejudiced judgment, that we regard the perceptions of the disease which are derived through the senses no more than themselves, in the light of materials which do not require further elaboration, and the deductions of reason; that like them, we hold the removal of the remote cause for the most needful and *first* indication; that we reject the light offered by the anamnesis, in estimating the morbid condition, as little as themselves; that we regard the primary and secondary condition as well as they; that equally with them, we avail ourselves of the present standing of medical science for a knowledge of the internal cause. It must then be evident, that the distinction consists only in this: that we do not give ourselves up to the self-delusion to suppose, that our present measure of knowledge is sufficient to enable us to trace the morbid phenomena on all occasions fully to their cause, and upon this to found the treatment; that we consider much as significant, and worthy of observation of which we do not know the organic basis; that, however, we do not borrow from daily changing hypotheses a motive for the method to be persued; that we do not, therefore, take our opinions of the internal cause, the abstractum of the symptoms, as the *sole* indicans (in which the symptoms figure only as a *caput mortuum*), but the abstractum together with the totality of the symptoms, is the ordinary indicans. There are differences, which, as has been already mentioned, spring from the divergence of the two schools; the one school aims at curing with remedies selected in conformity to certain *methods*, the

other with *specific* remedies strictly adapted to the concrete case. The differences, however, are not at all of a kind which would justify the adherents of the old school in making the observation of the cause a point of distinction, and to vindicate it as an advantage of theirs in opposition to the Homœopathic physicians. — From the acknowledgement that in those cases in which the cause of the totality of the symptoms *is not to be known*, we confine our attention exclusively to the latter, if our adversaries would infer, that, at least, they practise causally in more cases than we do; we might in reply remind them, that between *willing* to treat causally and doing so in fact, there is a great difference, which is not removed by illusory explanations; that the plan of treatment may often be in strict accordance with the highest deductions of reason, and yet in determining that treatment we perceive far more clearly the influence of the symptoms than that of the most penetrating views regarding the nature of the disease; that the most different reasons are assigned why *the same* treatment has been salutary, according to the diversity of views held by different physicians; and that the desire to treat the case causally does not exempt the physician of the old school from the necessity of treating serious forms of disease by means of remedies called *empirical*, because the causal relations of the case cannot be traced, and yet with such remedies good causal cures are, in fact, performed. Moreover, it should not be forgotten what a strictly causal relation is expressed in the principle of Homœopathy, *viz:* of curing local diseases, so called, solely by general remedies; morbid secretions solely by regulating the abnormal activity of the respective organ; and finally, that, in one respect, at least, a causal cure is clearly known to us, namely, the relation of the remedy to the disease.

10.—Nothing is more groundless than the attempt to draw a parallel between the Homœopathic method, and that which in an ignoble sense is called the *symptomatic*, designating a treatment that either combats a single troublesome secondary symptom solely, or all the symptoms simultaneously, with a remedy not adapted to the nature of the disease, or with one altogether hurtful. The treating of individual symptoms stands in palpable opposition to the fundamental proposition "the *totality* of the symptoms should be the only indication."*

* Our opponents do not appear to estimate the phrase "totality of the symptoms" nor to accept it in the sense which it nevertheless expresses, in a manner perfectly

The *suppression* of the symptoms with the small doses which the Homœopathist employs, the activity of which depends solely upon its relation as a specific to the concrete case, is less easy than for the physician of the old school, who has more certain means for the purpose. If it should, nevertheless, once occur (we will not pronounce it impossible) it would not be the result of a rude empirical invasion of the symptoms, an intentional disregard of the nature of the disease, but only an accidental error, or the effect of our inability to discover it. Our medical opponents will scarcely entertain the opinion, that the one or the other of these circumstances may not occur to them. We would not, however, at all object, if our method of treatment were called symptomatic (on account of the great value which we attach to the symptoms in practice); yet we cannot admit that to such a qualification there should be opposed that of a causal or rational treatment, as expressive of the differential relation of the two schools.

clear. As proof we shall here cite a passage from the book of Dr. Eisenmann ("the examination of Homœopathy stated in plain language," 1834). The author adduces two cases from his own practice, the one (p. 31 seq.) is that of a shoemaker who vomited every thing he ate, except radishes, and who wasted away to a mere skeleton. Proceeding upon the supposition "that no benefit could be derived from medicines, as every rational means selected with the utmost circumspection had hitherto proved fruitless, that the symptoms indicated obstructions in the abdominal viscera, to which the patient was predisposed by his occupation, but that no organic complaint of the stomach was indicated, and knowing that cold water and exercise operated very beneficially in many abdominal diseases" the doctor directed his patient to walk daily to a spring about a league distant, and there to drink as much cold water as he could; in this manner he was relieved of his ailments, and the doctor sent him to Kissingen to establish the cure.

The second patient was the wife of a director of the forest (p. 61). "This good woman imagined that she suffered only of spasms, but they appeared to me extremely suspicious. After some examination of the case I made the sorrowful disclosure to her husband, that his wife laboured under induration of the stomach, which, in all human probability would cause her death." This event accordingly happened as was predicted, and a post mortem examination confirmed the diagnosis.

Of the reflexions accompanying these reports, in which the Homœopathists are accused of ignorance, we shall only quote what relates to Homœopathy from p. 65. "The Homœopathist in the preceding case would have reasoned thus: This woman suffers of vomiting and emaciation, we must, therefore, give her a remedy which occasions vomiting and emaciation, and she will be cured. Whether the vomiting arise from an inflammation of the stomach, or intestines, or spinal marrow, or an affection of the kidneys or uterus, or whether it be owing to an indigestion, great irritability of the stomach, poison which had been swallowed or to induration of the stomach (for these and many other causes may produce vomiting) is no concern of the Homœopathist; to him the case of the shoemaker and that of the forest director's wife are of the same import, for both suffer of vomiting, both are emaciated, he,

11. — We cannot hinder our critics from believing or from asserting, that the Homœopathic physician may entirely dispense with the treasures of their knowledge. We will here only add to what has already been said upon this subject, that the selection of a Homœopathic remedy is not a mere mechanical process, requiring only an effort of memory or a recourse to registers, but that it demands the most comprehensive examination, and presupposes an extensive acquaintance with medical doctrines: a knowledge, which in many cases must appear to the Homœopathist more necessary, than it would to the physician of the old school. We cast back most decidedly the groundless aspersion, that the Homœopathic physician, in his method of treatment, can dispense with the knowledge of anatomy, physiology, ætiology, nosology, pathological and comparative anatomy. and we again repeat, that the knowledge of what is clearly established in all these doctrines is entirely indispensable to him. The marks of

therefore, administers the same remedy to both, and to both he promises a cure."

Less harsh in our judgment than Dr. Eisenmann, we freely acknowledge the merit of the cure in the first case, and of the true diagnosis in the second, and we only admire how it should have escaped so perspicacious an author, that a physician who practises as he represents, would reject the principle of directing his treatment "according to the totality of the symptoms." (Hahn. Org. §. 7, note 2 Amer. Edit. "A single existing symptom is no more the disease itself than a single leg constitutes the entire of the human body.") If, in a given case, no other symptoms were present then vomiting, Dr. Eisenmann would no more be able to make out a diagnosis of inflammation of the stomach, intestines, spinal marrow, or a disease of the kidneys, uterus, &c. than a Homœopathist. He could affect this only by means of the known diagnostic tokens, which specially express the locality and nature of these diseases, and therefore by symptoms existing in addition to the vomiting, and which only constitute collectively with this, the totality of the morbid phenomena. Are pain, its kind, seat, continuance or intermission, increase or diminution by touch or pressure, appearance of the secretions and excretions, thirst, nausea, temperature of the skin, pulse, intensity and duration of the complaints, periodical increase, &c. any other than symptoms? are they extant only for the physician of the old school? The reason which is not more nearly assigned wherefore the symptoms appeared so suspicious to Dr. Eisenmann, that he was induced to make out a diagnosis of induration of the stomach, cannot be any thing else but the presence of one or more morbid symptoms besides the vomiting (of which none of the particulars are given) and the emaciation.

We give in the preceding representation the type of innumerable similar instances of disregard to what is by no means indistinctly expressed by the phrase: "totality of all the morbid phenomena," and also of the convenient attempt to contrast the practice of the more profound physician of the old school, with the superficial method of the Homœopathist, who, it seems, does not need such knowledge and acuteness, and with all this, the certain presumption that the Homœopathic physician would have promised a cure in both cases, is in excellent keeping.

distinction between the two schools lie in the Materia Medica and the Therapeutics, and not at all in different views concerning the value of the doctrines just enumerated. We consider men who without professional instruction undertake to cure Homœopathically, not as physicians but as dilettanti, such as the old method also produces, and whom we do not authorize, moreover we consider physicians who believe that these fundamental doctrines of Medicine may be dispensed with, as labouring in another school than ours: we cannot and will not share their merits, nor appropriate to ourselves any part of the opposition which they may receive.

12. — In forming a judgment of the Hahnemannean work on Chronic Diseases, it should not be forgotten, that the primary motive to its production, the assertion, namely, that proportionably a large number of chronic diseases resist a *perfect cure*, is unfortunately true. Abundant instances are not wanting of improvement in the worst forms of such cases, but it not less frequently occurs, that one or more little symptoms remain, or after being suppressed, again burst forth. They may, indeed, be tolerated by the patient, but the physician must be convinced that the pre-existing health of the individual is not fully restored. It is known that Hahnemann's conclusions which brought him to the theory of psora, were originally the result of observation. He observed that individual complaints apparently extinguished, after several years of excellent health on the part of the patient, may, after unassignable or very trivial causes, return and evince far greater obstinacy than at first; and a patient being liberated from one form of disease, after a longer or shorter term of good health, is afterwards visited with a series of alternative maladies, which after close observation can be regarded only as metaschematismi of one and the same original suffering.—These premises are so conformable to experience, that the wish to illustrate them, the significance of which in a pathological and therapeutic relation cannot admit of a doubt, needs no apology. Considered in this point of view, the researches of Hahnemann after a solution even though they may not be deemed successful, should, at least, not have been rewarded with ridicule. Moreover, multiplied experience favours the correctness of the assertion (which has already been made by Autenrieth), that scabies is, in fact, not rarely the overlooked source of many important sufferings which afterwards make their appearance. Meanwhile,

it cannot be unknown to any one at all familiar with Homœopathic literature, that Hahnemann's idea of tracing the large majority of chronic diseases to actual itch, has met with the greatest opposition even from Homœopathic physicians themselves, and that we can quite as little concur with his division of chronic diseases into *improper* and *proper* (which he considers as exclusively derived from scabies, syphilis or sycosis), and medicines into *antipsoric* and *non-antipsoric*. If the psoric theory has led to no proper schism, the reason is to be found in the fact, that it is almost without any influence in practice. The case would have been very different, had Hahnemann carried his opinions so far as to direct the cure of the most diversified maladies which he considered psoric, without regard to their diversity, by means of one or a few remedies, to which he might ascribe a *general* remedial virtue against psora in *whatever form* it should appear As, however, he has established a great number of antipsoric remedies, so called, the particular selection of which is to be determined strictly according to the peculiarity of the case and the fundamental principle *similia similibus*, so that, for example, some antipsoric remedies are more suitable for gout than for phthisis or hæmorrhages, it is of no consequence in a practical point of view whether the foregoing diseases are, with Hahnemann, considered as forms of psora or not.

13.—Our opponents are little versed in Homœopathic literature, if they believe that the physicians of the new school are blind to the imperfect results of trials hitherto made with medicines upon the healthy subject, and recorded in the Materia Medica pura of Hahnemann and other similar registers. We well know that errors may have crept in, and we are, therefore, far from unconditionally ascribing to the remedy which has been proved, every symptom that is recorded of it. We do not overlook the liability to deception from the possibly impaired health of the subject of experiment. and that the symptoms may be due to casual influence, to bodily indisposition from other causes and to the particular individuality and also to the imaginative faculty of the experimenter. *For these reasons* we consider the pathological phenomena manifested during the trial of a medicine, as *mere indications* for its use in similar spontaneous morbid affections, and when the extinction of these thereby obtained, is the result of repeated experience, these *indications* are raised to the rank of therapeutic *tokens* (Anzeigen) for further use in diseases.

Nor, are we ignorant of the deficiencies in the arrangement of the symptoms, adopted by Hahnemann. Commingling the symptoms of the various experimenters without noticing what doses were employed, what symptoms were primarily manifested, in what groups or order of succession they were observed by different individuals, and the slight regard paid to the objective symptoms, render it impracticable to know the organ primarily affected, the genetic relation of many individual symptoms, or what is most important, the character, the total operation of the medicine; so that it may be viewed as a difficult task for one who refers to these records of symptoms, to select the right remedy.* Yet the theoretical reasonings of many of our opponents cannot, therefore, induce us to doubt of the general utility of the trials of medicines upon the healthy, or of the valuable results hitherto attained in particular. We will not take away from Homœopathy its foundation; the reproach connected with trials upon the healthy, which have hitherto been made, is for us only a reason hereafter to avoid as much as possihle the present, confessed deficiencies. Our experience of how much that is practically useful in what has already been attained, however imperfect it may be, and the knowledge of how much we are thereby capable of effecting, furnish the strongest motives to persevere in the path we have chosen, and to keep steadily in view the prospect, that by means of numerous trials of remedies upon the healthy of every age and both sexes, under the controul of experience at the bed side of the patient, we shall gradually attain a degree of knowledge so exact and invariable of every individual symptom, as to approach very nearly to certainty. The endeavours of Homœopathists to purify the recorded symptoms of the remedies from those that are erroneous and unessential, to elevate the Materia Medica proper to the character of a codex of pure, indubitable operations of the individual remedies, and such as are practically useful, (to which

* Less embarrassment occurs in practice, because after years of experience at the bed side with the remedies thus represented, Homœopathists become gradually acquainted with the character of each, its total operation and its particular tendencies. The results thus acquired writers upon Homœopathy have collected and published. These beginnings, though they may require revision, and are not all to be viewed as the results of experience among Homœopathists generally, nevertheless greatly facilitate the labours of the inexperienced in Homœopathy, in acquiring a knowledge of the remedies, and spare him the circuitous way which was necessary for his medical predecessors.

end the unsifted records of symptoms stand only in the relation of the bare materials) we can assure our opponents has by no means been ineffectual, although we acknowledge that a beginning only has been made in the work. But our critics seem to have adopted the maxim of employing an ideal standard for all that belongs to Homœopathy including our Materia Medica. It would be more just and impartial, however, on their part, were they to determine its value by a comparison with what is certain and what hypothetical of the old school, and to this scale we should make no possible objection.

14.—We do not deny that in many cases Homœopathic cures may be performed by means of the usual preparations of the old school, that is to say, in large doses, since Hahnemann himself originally employed them with success, and we often witness cures effected by the old school, by the same remedy which we employ in similar cases yet in smaller doses and with the same results.*

But to violent and dangerous diseases of rapid course, unless very small doses are administered, the Homœopathic principle of cure is not adapted. Large doses may be the cause of a positive increase of the disease, and even of death; and in favourable cases of the kind we must be prepared to witness as a primary effect, a boisterous and painful aggravation of the disease, in no respect demanded as a necessary condition of the cure. Hahnemann having experienced this, had recourse to his dilutions, a

* This fact has become the subject of much reflexion among Homœopathists, and must necessarily exercise their attention the more, since, on the one hand, they were not without their influence upon Hahnemann's later views touching the increase of energy in the dilutions, and on the other hand originated the doubts of our opponents respecting the efficacy of the Homœopthic doses of medicine, and the question raised by them, wherefore large doses were not injurious, when small ones were so efficacious, and how smaller doses of any remedy could operate, where larger ones had rapidly effected a cure, and without any violent primary operation. In answer to the first question it should be considered, that larger doses often greatly augment the secretions and excretions, and thus prevent their more penetrating operation upon the organism (as is witnessed in the effects of a large dose of calomel). An answer to the second question is more difficult, and we can only concur with the view of the Homœopathists, viz: that many forms of disease respond so unconditionally to their specific remedy that the influence of the quale so much predominates over that of the quantum, that a very great (though certainly not an illimitable) difference of the dose, is almost without any different influence in the cure and its progress. Whether these views correspond with those of the physicians of the old school we know not; they are only an attempt to illustrate a fact, which does not the less cease to exist, because we cannot explain or will remain in ignorance of it.

simple and appropriate means of supplying the necessity of a greater diminution in the dose, and in this manner he was led to discover the remarkable fact, that the dilutions even when carried to a great extent, displayed an energy which could not have been foreseen, and Homœopathic physicians, without exception, acknowledge the correctness of his observations. Our daily experience speaks more powerfully *for*, than derision and theoretical doubts *against* a matter, the improbability of which we do no at all deny, but this it possesses in common with many other phenomena, of which nevertheless, no one entertains a doubt. It was natural that Hahnemann, not resting in the fact, should attempt to discover and explain the reason of it, which he does essentially in the following manner.

1) That disease may alter the susceptibility of the organism to external stimuli, so that it may become much more susceptible to agents which are analogous in their operation to the irritation of the disease, and, on the contrary less susceptible to those that are heterogeneous. Both reason and observation concur in establishing this proposition, which we recognise as perfectly true.

2) That the effect of a dose of medicine, is not stronger in proportion as it exceeds another in material bulk, (8 drops of a medicament do not operate 4 times as much as 2 drops) and that higher dilutions do not operate in the ratio of arithmetical progression weaker, than do the lower.

3) That in the case of very high dilutions, susceptibility to their action is present only in parts the most invaded by disease, and because other parts would not be affected by them, they awaken no action elsewhere tending to dissipate the specific effects of the remedy, and so much the more tranquilly must the vital power suffer its operation:—an explanation this, which, though we do not receive it as an axiom, certainly has much in its favour. When Hahnemann speaks of "the spiritualization" of the medicament, for the purpose of expressing its pure dynamic operation as opposed to the chemical (which is inconceivable in such high dilutions), the expression is certainly not a suitable one, but it should be considered that it is not easy to find a fitting term for a thing, to which no analogy has hitherto been known.

It is evident that Hahnemann originally regarded the dilutions as only diminutions in the power of the medicines, that he ascribed to them only a *conditional power to affect the organization*,

dependent upon the existing disease, and the analogous pathic operation of the medicine contained in the dilution, and, therefore, he taught, that a higher or lower dilution, or even the crude substance itself should be employed, according to the nature of the case. *These* views were embraced by every Homœopathist. When, however, they yielded to another, afterwards taken up by him, which held the medicinal dilutions to be absolute increments of power,* and that they possess an unconditional efficacy to affect the healthy as well as the diseased organism, we can in no wise assent to these ideas, and our opposition is the more decided, since practical rules were attempted to be founded upon them, which we consider entirely objectionable. Thus, we have to notice:

1) The assertion "that the 30th dilution is a sufficient dose and the best adapted to all cases."—We declare, on the contrary, that the doctrine of a normal dose adapted to every case, is inconsistent with theory and experience; that the 30th dilution is often too weak, that only the degree of susceptibility (infinitely diversified) in the patient, can guide the physician to employ the 30th or any other dilution, or the undiluted medicine itself.

2) The doctrine of "undertaking the trials of medicines on the healthy, in high dilutions." Without utterly denying that an individual in health and great susceptiblility, may be affected by such doses, we can only regard such isolated cases in the light of rare exceptions, but by no means as the rule; quite as little as we should expect the production of syncope from the odour of the rose, because this effect had happened in some rare cases. We concede to such trials, therefore, only a limited value when compared with those made with large doses, or such as were originally employed. We have no confidence in the trials with high dilutions upon the healthy, and we distrust the symptoms which haply appear under such circumstances. We, therefore,

* We can admit of an absolute increase of power only in the case of such substances which in their natural state exhibit a minor degree of medical virtue, (for example, the carbonate of lime, silex, lycopodium), but in an increased proportion when their aggregate condition is changed. Yet even in such substances we can only admit that there is an actual increase of virtue up to the point in which cohesion is overcome in the greatest possible degree, above this, we can allow of no further augmentation. Nevertheless, since the efficacy of the higher dilutions is not diminished in the ratio of their number, they may be considered as relative increments of power and in this sense, at least, the phrase "developments of power" (Potenzirungen) may be justified.

guard ourselves against *all* deductions touching the inefficacy of Homœopathic dilutions or the uncertainty of our Materia Medica, that are founded upon the results of such experiments.

Many Homœopathists believe, that the known fact that medicines operate more powerfully in the state of a minute division of their particles, viewed in connexion with what has already been observed, is sufficient to account for the efficacy of the dilutions. Others believe this reason alone insufficient to explain their operation, and suppose that the virtues of the medicine divided to its very atoms, may be conveyed by means of agitation, as if by infection, to an indifferent vehicle, yet with a degree of power successively *decreasing*. We freely confess, that notwithstanding this, and all that has previously been said, a complete explanation of the efficacy of the dilutions carried to a great extent, is a desideratum which may occupy us for a long time before we shall be able to satisfy those critics who desire more convincing *theoretical* grounds to enable them to believe. These gentlemen should consider, that the question as to the fact is of much more easy solution, and that our explanations did not precede the discovery of the efficacy of the dilutions and their introduction into Homœopathic practice, that these explanations were the necessary consequence of the inability of the human mind to trace the cause of an extraordinary phenomenon, or at least to bring it nearer to us, as it were, by a union with other phenomena already known. Perhaps we could more easily satisfy the demands of such rigid critics, if they would precede us by giving us an example, and *prove* satisfactorily that five grains of tartar emetic must excite vomiting.

We cannot but regret that our critics are not content to take *our* views as the object of their trial and refutation, but, with respect to the dilutions they ascribe to the Homœopathists the most unfounded and absurd opinions, which are quite as easy to invent as they are to refute.

Thus, we often remind them, that they entertain a false idea of a Homœopathic remedy, because they transfer it exclusively to the Homœopathic dilutions, or, at least, to doses extraordinarily small. This idea, however, is erroneous; for, the determination whether a remedy is Homœopathic, is deduced neither from the dose, nor from the form in which it is administered, but *only from its relation to the disease.* Every remedy is Homœopathic, if it stands in the relation of similarity (expressed by the fundamental

principle of Homœopathy) to the disease for which it is to serve as a remedy, whether it be used in the 30th dilution, or in an undiluted state, in grain or scruple doses, and in whatever form it may be administered. A larger dose would only be opposed to the technicism of Hahnemann, but this has no influence upon the principle. The latter is too invariable to admit of dispute, and the right remains to our opponents to explain in some other manner such of their cures as we consider Homœopathic, and to deny the Homœopathic relation of the remedy in these cases.

We must further mention, that our critics frequently either do not comprehend, or purposely disregard the limitation which we ascribe to the dilutions, in restricting their efficacy to conditions, in which the Homœopathic relation of similarity between the disease and the operation of the remedy takes place, and upon this subject, therefore, we will again represent our views.

An inflamed eye is disagreeably impressed, and the inflammation aggravated, by the ordinary light of day, an inflamed ear by slight noises; but the report of artillery does not affect the inflamed eye, and dazzling light has no effect upon the inflamed ear. Now we entertain similar views as to the operation of medicaments; we believe, for example, that the 2d or 3d dilution of ipecacuanha is operative *in an individual suffering with nausea with a tendency to vomit*, and may even produce vomiting, but only *because by reason of the existing suffering, the susceptibility to the operation of ipecacuanha is exalted.* But we do not assert that the 2d or 3d dilution is operative in every individual, and where such a morbid increase of susceptibility for the action of the medicine does not exist.* For a similar reason we attach no value to the proofs of the inactivity of the Homœopathic dilutions, which our opponents think they find in the presence of medicinal particles in the atmosphere, and in our food and drinks; because, in order to become affected by such minimum doses, the organism must have a special susceptibility for them. Many critics ascribe to us the folly of practising the old method by means of our dilutions,

* Compare, for example, Rau, "Ideen zur wissenschaftlichen Begründung des Systems der Homöopathischen Heilkunst. Giessen, 1834." § 63: "To the opponents of Homœopathy who endeavour to prove the inefficacy of the remedies in high dilutions by the argument, that a healthy man may devour the contents of a whole pocket case of Homœopathic medicines, without feeling the least alteration," we may reply, that the peculiarity of these remedies is not to operate upon the healthy, but only upon individuals whose dynamic disease bears to them a polaric relation and affinity."

and instead of an emetic, for example, they say that we administer the 3d dilution of stibiated tartar, or purge with the 3d dilution of jalap. This assertion is the result of inexcusable ignorance or intentional misrepresentation; for, the Homœopathist employs the dilutions of those remedies for removing the sickness or diarrhœa adapted to them, but not to provoke these symptoms, for which purpose another form and dose would be demanded.

(To be continued.)

ON THE HOMŒOPATHIC DOSES OF MEDICINE.

BY

G. Lingen.

"Homo naturæ minister et interpres tantum facit et intelligit, quantum de naturæ ordine re vel mente observavit, nec amplius scit aut potest." — Bacon.

"We have a micro-anatomy and a micro-chemistry, why should we not have a micro-materia-medica?" These words, worthy of one of the greatest pathologists of the age,* indicate the symmetry or parallelism which, as it manifests itself throughout the universe generally, is not less visible in the history of man and in the development of science. The expanded realm of the astronomer's celestial knowledge has a correspondent in the inverted astronomy (as it were) displayed in an infusorial world, of which myriads of individuals may be awakened from their latent state by mere infusion, some undergoing a metamorphose from animal to vegetable life and vice versa.† Whilst Ehrenberg has shown, that they form mountains when in a petrified state, so that ephemera are both architects and materials for their own everlasting monuments (a double paradox in nature), Robert Brown's experiments go so far, as to prove, that even inorganic atoms, when minutely divided, assume motions almost like infusoria, as if life and death were only different poles of existence of which one or the other preponderates for a given time.‡

If we would thus proceed in the interesting task (which lies

* Shœnlein in a conversation with Dr. C. Hering.
† Bory de St. Vincent's Arthrodines.
‡ Nulla mors in natura. Leibnitz.

beyond the limits of this discourse) of pointing out the corresponding progress of the different sciences, ending with medicine, which ought to be the zenith of human knowledge; there would be a hopeless vacuum, if with Homœopathy the dawn of a new era had not broken through the mist which has enveloped medicine almost from her infancy. But Homœopathy, though legitimate by its historical necessity* and scientific connexion, is yet persecuted and ridiculed by those whose calling it is to investigate and cultivate it; they deny it an appeal to experiment, deciding it to be an absurdity a priori from the fundamental law of Homœopathy itself; despising it most for that, for which it deserves most credit, viz: for the conscientious regard for human life, which dictates the use only of minute doses of medicine in by far the majority of cases. The minuteness of the doses of medicine employed in Homœopathic practice being the part most objected to by professionals as well as non-professionals, we intend to show by a series of analogous facts, that Homœopathy stands by no means so isolated amongst the natural sciences, as would appear from the crude and material notions of those Allœopathists who still judge of vital functions only by the bulk, by pounds and grains. Who obstinately adhere to their views, though for the last half century the turn of investigation has been more than ever directed to the dynamis or "spiritual elements" of things, considering mass and form less than power and relation. We maintain that it is *the Homœopathy of things generally* which forms the connecting link between body and body wherever we see action and reaction displayed; that we are only accustomed, to denote that one universal Homœopathic law, with different names. according to the different forms in which it manifests itself: thus in chemistry we call it affinity; in electricity and magnetism, polarity; in physiology and pathology, sympathy; in materia medica, specificity; in acoustics and music, sympathetic harmony &c., in short *wherever there is action or life there is also Homœopathy.*

Before we, however, advance any argument to sustain these propositions, it will be necessary for such readers as are not yet perfectly acquainted with the theory of Homœopathy to observe, that Homœopathic doses of medicine are only expected to act under such morbid conditions as correspond Homœopathically with the prescribed remedy, which correspondence constitutes an affinity between the human system and remedial agent, on which

* See Dr. C. Hering's Address on the necessity and usefulness of Homœopathy

the action of the latter depends. Hence the assertion, which we hear so often repeated, that thousands of Homœopathic medicinal globules might be taken with impunity, even if it were perfectly correct, would prove no more against Homœopathy than the fact, that all substances are not capable of producing chemical reaction between each other, would prove against the laws of chemical affinity, and all the facts which we shall offer in the progress of this discourse have no other object, than to serve as analogies *to the action of atoms on the human system by Homœopathic affinity.*

Beginning with inorganic action and ascending gradually to the functions of organic life, we find *the Homoeopathy of Chemistry* clearly expressed by the fundamental principle, that chemical action depends on the reaction between atoms under the law of affinity, viz: such atoms which to a certain degree must be liberated from the effect of cohesion, as indicated by the motto: *corpora non agunt nisi fluida*, and they must bear affinity to each other; as for instance sulphur and mercury never would form vermillion if one was in a solid, crystaline state or the other frozen,and if there was no affinity between them.—Chemical reaction has been traced to portions so minute, as to correspond perfectly with Homœopathic doses and would be found still more so, if it was not for want of the means of perception, on account of which the sphere of chemical reaction appears to us limited to a much narrower compass, than in reality is the case; and though apparently beyond the reach of the most delicate chemical test, some substances still manifest decided effects in altering the functions of organic life. The following examples will serve to illustrate these remarks.—A ten thousandth part of arsenuretted hydrogen still indicates its presence in a gaseous mixture by the metallic pellicle which it causes upon a solution of corrosive sublimate; * by means of iron the 50,000th part of any of the salts of copper in solution can be detected; sulphuric acid precipitates a 20,000th part of muriate of barytes; the 100,000th part of muriate of soda is detected by a very weak solution of nitrate of silver, and the 450,000th part of Iodine still colours a solution of starch; from a solution containing the 2,500,000th part of a grain of the arseniate of ammonia, a yellow precipitate is obtained by adding a very small proportion of nitrate of silver (Brandes & Ebeling). Dr. Segin observed by means of a solar microscope, that the millionth part of a grain of the acetate of copper, or the 100 bil-

* Dr. R. Hare's Compendium of Chemistry, p. 344.

lionth part of a grain of metallic copper, still produce characteristic effects on the crystallisation of a weak solution of sugar of milk, a fact of great importance, as we thus might become enabled to find out tests for Homœopathic medicinal preparations.* If cast-steel is melted and mixed with a 500th part of its weight of silver, a very useful product is obtained, harder than common steel and differing so materially from it, that one would scarcely attribute the change to the alliance with so minute a portion as mentioned.† The red color of copper is destroyed by combining with it a small portion of arsenic, and the minimum of the latter substance is sufficient to annihilate the magnetic power of iron.‡ Tin, which by itself is only capable of a very indifferent crackling noise, is used to improve the sound of other metals, and though 420 (F.) of heat are required for its fusion, it melts in boiling water when combined with Bismuth and Lead in such proportions which form, what is called, Newton's Metal, though either of these metals has a higher fusing point than Tin. The fact that the ductility of most of the metals which are remarkable for that property is considerably diminished by alloying them with Tin, is so well known, that for that very reason it was called "the devil of metals (*diabolus metallorum*);" but where ductility exists in a less degree, it remains unchanged in the Tin-alloy.—The strong affinity between acids and alkalies, though apparently in glaring opposition to Homœopathy, is one of the most striking analogies to illustrate the universal extent of its fundamental law. It is generally admitted that acidity and alkalinity stand in the same relation to each other as negative and positive electricity, so much so, that with the same propriety which induces us to distinguish electro-negative and electro-positive substances, we might also divide electricity into acid and alkaline electricity. But as the poles of the globe are only points of one and the same line, viz. its axis, and as negative and positve electricity are only different positions of one and the same fluid: so are alkalinity and acidity nothing, but correlative expressions of one and the same substratum for which chemistry has no name yet. Hence the alkalinity of one substance is the *simile* or Homœopathic state which excites an attraction of the acid in another, similar to that

* Hygea (a German Journal of Homœopathic medicine), vol. VII. p. 1.

† Berzelius's Chemistry. German Edition, vol. II. p. 616.

‡ Dr. Rau's Beitraege, &c. p. 172.

existing between individuals of different sexes but belonging to the same species.

To make these remarks clearer, we only need call to mind the difficulty of drawing an exact line of division between alkalies and acids, and the fact, that any other substance besides oxygen could form bases as well as salts. Placing oxygen on one extreme, and the alkaline metals on the other, and descending from either, we pass on one side through a series of substances pre-eminently electro-negative and on the other side pre-eminently electro-positive, until, on approaching the centre, we meet with such substances, the electrical relation of which is "equivocal or wavering." Chlorine is with oxygen, Iodine with both and Bromine electro-positive, while with all other substances they are electro-negative. In morphia and strychnia, and in some vegetable acids the alkaline and acid properties are attached to ponderable elements which exist in other compounds, without inducing acidity or alkalinity.*

Thus we may truly say: *centrum ubique, circumferentia nusquam;* the extreme points of one series of things only appear as such, in as much as they are the beginning or end of another,† and like the oxygen in sugar, there is in spite of all apparent contrariety a similarity, a Homœopathic medium of connexion.

These facts may suffice to illustrate the Homœopathy of inorganic atomic action, we now proceed to the more important step of tracing the effects of atoms on organic individnals.

The 10,240th part of tartrate of mercury in solution is sufficient to destroy the power of germination in peas (Leuchs). Induced by Alex. V. Humboldt's observation with regard to Chlorine as a promoter of germination, Profess. Gœppert experimented in like manner with Iodine and Bromine, and after having ascertained that these substances act only by their respective acids, he extended his experiments over the most important acids, *viz:* sulphuric—nitric—phosporic—tartaric acid, &c. each of which he found, when sufficiently diluted, promotive to germination.

These acids even so far diluted that they are not to be detected by means of the chemical test, yet manifest their influence in quickening the germination of seeds, as for instance phosphoric acid in 48,00th dilution; muriatic and sulphuric acid in 8000th, acetic acid in 16,000th, oxalic acid in 20,000th, nitric and tartaric

* V. Dr. R. Hare's Compendium.

† Herbart's Psychologie als Wissenschaft.

acid in 25,000th dilution; so that the portion for each individual seed of some plants, as for example of Camelina sativa, exceeds no more than from a 500,000th to a millionth part of a grain. The fixed alkalies act as retarders of the process of germination, but the compass of their action seems to be confined to dilutions from 400—10,000. (Seeds belonging to plants of the cruciferous tribe are particularly recommended for such experiments, See Oken's Isis for 1834, p. 581—583.)

In the water used for tempering iron or steel, no iron can be detected by the test, and yet such water changes the colour of Hydranges from pink to blue. If then organisms far beneath the human system, manifest such a high degree of susceptibility for the influence of atoms, there can be no reason to deny a priori the possibility of such action in man, and of this we shall treat in our next number.

(To be continued.)

ON THE HOMŒOPATHIC DOCTRINES.

(From Curiosities of Medical Experience, by J. G. MILLINGEN, M. D. Surgeon to the Forces, &c., in Dr. Bell's Select Medical Library, p. 228.)

THE Editor of the Select Medical Library deserves the thanks of all friends of Homœopathy for publishing the interesting paper of Dr. Millingen on the Homœopathic doctrines; the more so, as he some time ago has published several papers against Homœopathy, which led us nearly to suspect, that he was little disposed to do justice to antagonists. It is truly creditable to him, thus to show his impartiality by the above publication. It must in fact soon become apparent to the more enlightened physicians of the old school, that the time for opposing or deriding Homœopathy has passed; that whether we will or not, the great reform of medicine will overtake us, and that we must make up our mind to look the new doctrine boldly in the face. The question has, indeed, been already asked in several German States, where the great majority of the public are in favour of Homœopathy: what is the use of Allœopathic physicians and professors, if they have no patients or students to follow their prescriptions and doctrines? Might not this question be also asked once in other countries?

If physicians of some reputation in the old school, who have become convinced of the truth of Homœopathy by practical experience, cannot reconcile its theories to their own preconceived opinions, they seldom have the candour to ascribe this to their limited knowledge of the new doctrine, but the reason will always be sought by them in some inherent fault or absurdity of it. They immediatedly commence to construct a Homœopathy of their own, endeavouring to set up as great reformers themselves. These remarks are again applicable to the author of the work before us. He is struck with the power of truth; experiments have convinced him of the efficacy of Homœopathic medicines, but at the same time he passes his anathema on the venerable Hahnemann and his theoretical views, to which, as Hahnemann has so often remarked, no importance is to be paid. But this is not heeded; *Hahnemann must be lowered, in order to raise our own self-importance.*

We have always admired the practical tact of the English race, which leads them in an intricate subject to discover quickly the few points, which particularly deserve attention; but whilst being fully sensible of this eminent trait of their character, we see them almost entirely wanting in another mental quality no less valuable to individuals than to nations; we mean that quality of the mind, which prompts us to disinterested inquiries into the labours of others which have preceded us, and which of all nations the Germans are perhaps mostly possessed of. Whilst we discover a full share of the former quality in the author of the Curiosities of Medical Experience, he seems almost entirely destitute of the other. How poor and imperfect is his description of Hahnemann's life and his doctrine! How extremely limited his acquaintance, with Homœopathic literature generally; indeed, except some of the standard works on Homœopathy which have been translated into the French language, he appears to have read nothing. Little or nothing does he know of the new views which have been advanced for many years, on many of the Hahnemannean doctrines; the Homœopathy which he opposes or derides is the Homœopathy as it was six or eight years ago, but not as it presents itself at this day. He repeats, therefore for the thousandth time all the objections to its theories, which have already drawn forth so many able discussions by the first Homœopathic physicians. Instead of confining his remarks to a plain statement of facts, as would have been proper for the student of a science entirely new to him, he at once places him-

self on the shoulders of the great Hahnemann, and lectures him about the absurdities of his doctrines, of which he has the most erroneous notions, and thus neglects himself, the advice which he gives to other physicians, viz. "*that they should frankly avow their utter ignorance, when they cannot find time to commence a new course of studies, for such this investigation must prove and not denounce with merciless tyranny a doctrine, of which they do not possess the slightest knowledge.*"

He commences his account with the following introductory remarks:—

"It is a matter worthy of remark, that while the doctrines of Homœopathy have fixed the attention and become the study of many learned and experienced medical men in various parts of Europe, England is the only country where it has only been noticed, to draw forth the most opprobious invectives. It is certainly true, that no one but an ardent proselyte of the visionary (! !) Hahnemann could for one moment become the advocate of all his absurd ideas, yet while we reject his errors, great and important truths beam from the chaotic clouds, that shroud his wanderings, and however wild his theories may be, incontrovertible facts have been elicited from his apparently inefficacious practice."

After having spoken with great severity of Hahnemann's theories and doctrines, by which as before remarked, the present standard of Homœopathy cannot be judged, he comes to the really practical part of Homœopathy, the observations he makes on which, we will give our readers without comment.

Yet notwithstanding the many gratuitous assertions, and consequent erroneous inductions, we meet with in the *Organon*, it is probable that this system is destined to operate a gradual but material revolution in the *practice* of medicine. As to theories, we must agree with Voltaire, when he said, 'En fait de systeme, il faut tonjours se reserver le droit de rire le lendenmain de ses idies de la veille.'

Hippocrates laid down in his aphorisms the incontrovertible fact, "Duobus doloribus simul obortis, non tandem eadem in parte vehementior alterum obscurat, A. 46." To a certain degree, it was upon this assertion, which the experience of ages has confirmed, that Hahnemann founded the principal and most important point of his doctrine; but, going much farther than the father of medicine, he affirms that similar diseases effectually remove each other. For centuries practitioners have been acting Homœopathically, the exhibition of specifics, in fact, is nothing else. As we have already shown, specifics are known to produce symptoms similar to the diseases they cure. Hitherto the number of such medicines has been confined to a very few agents; and perhaps, with the exception of mercury, sulphur, and bark, with their several preparations, scarcely any article in the materia medica could have claimed this peculiar property. *To extend these limits, which confined in so exiguous a compass our therapeutic agents, has been the laborious*

and singular study of Hahnemann and his disciples. Haller had first given the example, and they arduously applied themselves to discover by experiments on the healthy subject, both upon their own persons and others, what were the peculiar effects or symptoms produced by various medicinal substances. These observations are so numerous and confused, that, on reading them, we feel plunged in a chaotic labyrinth of symptoms, without any clue to extricate ourselves from its perplexing mazes. Still, from this multifarious catalogue much important information can be collected; and it cannot be denied, that the Homœopathist has not only thrown a new light on the action of many medicines which we daily prescribe, but brought into practical consideration, the necessity of attending to dietetic discipline, by an investigation of the several properties of our usual *ingesta.*

To extend the limits of specifics must be considered a most desirable step towards adding to our means of relieving disease; and in this pursuit it is impossible to bestow too much praise on the Homœopathic observer. Enthusiasm—predilection to a favourite but persecuted system—may induce an ardent proselyte not only to deceive others, but unwittingly to deceive himself. It is therefore not only possible, but probable, that in the experimental investigations of the effects of medicine, Fancy, in her multifarious colours, may have depicted, with apparent fidelity, a state of body and mind that only existed in an exalted imagination; but when we behold various individuals, distant from each other, and totally unconnected, observing similar results from the exhibition of various medicinal substances, we have no right to call their assertions into doubt. These assertions, moreover, are not laid down dogmatically, but are earnestly recommended to be submitted to the test of experiment. For instance, the Homœopathist has found out that certain substances, by diminishing the energy of the heart and arteries, subdue inflammatory action as effectually as venesection. This is a fact daily witnessed, and of which any practitioner can convince himself. It is not asserted that in cases of sudden determination of blood, which require immediate revulsion and abstraction of the vital fluid, Homœopathic remedies will be found possessed of sufficient activity to afford prompt relief; but experience has fully proved that in cases which can admit, of a few hours' delay, these medicines supersede the necessity of debilitating the patient by a copious loss of blood.

Dr. Paris, in his admirable work on Materia Medica, has justly observed, "that observation or experiment upon the effects of medicine is liable to a thousand fallacies, unless it be carefully repeated under the various circumstances of *health* and *disease*, in different climates, and on different constitutions." This has been the main object of the Homœopathist; and a further question from the above distinguished writer will illustrate the importance of their labour. "It is impossible to cast our eyes over such multiplied groups [of medical substances] without being forcibly struck with the palpable absurdity of some, the disgusting and loathsome nature of others, the total want of activity in many, and the uncertain and precarious reputation of *all*, without feeling an eager curiosity to inquire, from the combination of what causes it can happened that substances at one period in the highest esteem, and of general acknowledged utility, have fallen into total neglect and disrepute. That such fluctuation in opinion and versatility in practice should

have produced even in the most candid and learned observer, an unfavourable impression with regard to the general efficacy of medicines, can hardly excite our astonishment, much less our indignation; nor can we be surprised to find that another portion of mankind has at once arraigned physic as a fallacious art, or derided it as a composition of error and fraud. A late foreign writer, impressed with this sentiment, has given the following *flattering* definition of our profession: *Physic is the art of amusing the patient while Nature cures his disease.*"

With such a lamentable view of the practice of medicine, can we be too thankful to those observers who strenuously endeavour to rescue it from the dark trammels with which prejudice and interested motives have bound it? In no country more than in Great Britain is such an investigation desirable. We have become proverbial from our incessant abuse of a farrago of medicinal substances; and what is usually termed an *elegant prescription* signifies an amalgam of various drugs and preparations, which most probably by their affinities neutralise the expected effects of each other; for, however great and flattering may have been the discoveries of modern chemistry, many of these affinities are unknown to us. And surely when our labours cannot detect any difference in the component parts of the purest Alpine atmosphere and the deleterious air of a loathsome dungeon, we cannot expect to form a correct idea of pharmaceutic combinations.

The mere hopes of being able to relieve society from the curse of constant drugging should lead us to hail with gratitude the Homœopathist's investigations. That many physicians, but especially apothecaries, who live by overwhelming their patients with useless and too frequently pernicious medicines, will warmly, nay furiously, inveigh against any innovation of the kind, must be expected as the natural result of interested apprehension; and any man who aims at simplicity in practice will be denounced as guilty of medical heresy. Have we not seen inoculation and vaccination branded with the most opprobrious epithets, merely because their introduction tended to diminish professional lucre?

In these remarks upon medicinal conbinations it is not meant to infer that, because they are chemically incompatible, they are ineffectual,—experience has proved the contrary; but no one will contend that, if we can attain the same beneficial results from a single ingredient, administered in small quantities and at distant periods, as from the exhibition of repeated and nauseous doses of pills, powders, draughts, potions, &c. which hang over the bed of sickness, nay of slight derangements, like the sword of Damocles, we have not effected a most salutary reform in the practice of physic. It is related of one of these ingenious and industrious practitioners, that, having seen a prescription, that only contained half a dozen medicines, he exclaimed, "What! nothing more?" to which the prescriber replied, "If you choose, sir, we'll step, over to the apothecary, and see what else he has in his shop."

Specifics may be divided into two classes, the one producing a peculiar effect upon particular organs, the other producing general results. Thus the action of cantharides and digitalis on the urinary system, of emetics on the stomach, of certain purgatives on the small intestines, and of others on the large ones, are generally known; whereas the action of mercury and opium

is still a matter of controversy. A study of these effects constitutes the chief object of the homœopathist; and having determined their peculiar action, their medicinal agents are given singly, and, as we have already observed, in the most minute doses.

It is this division into infinite fractions that has drawn upon the Homœopathic practice the denunciation of the Allopathic physicians, as it is considered utterly impossible that such imponderable particles can produce any beneficial or prejudicial effect; andthe Academy of Medicine of Paris, when officially condemning the doctrine, asserts, in support of this argument, that great danger arises from it "in frequent and serious cases of disease, where the physician may do as much injury, and cause no less mischief, by ineffectual means as by those which are prejudicial."

This is perhaps one of the most important points of the Homœopathic doctrine. If these fractional doses are inert, and yet the disease is cured, then must the successful treatment be solely ascribed to the dietetic regimen and the efforts of nature. However, experience has afforded abundant proofs that these infinite atoms do produce positive and evident effects. What appears to our feeble organs an atomic fraction may produce phenomena on the organism which we cannot comprehend, but should not therefore be denied. Let one grain of iodine be dissolved in one thousand five hundred and sixty grains of water, the solution will be limpid; let two grains of starch be dissolved in two ounces of water and added to the first solution, and the liquor will forthwith assume a blue tint. In this experiment the grain of iodine has been divided into one 15360th. Dissolve the four-hundredth part of water, and the hydric-sulphite will bring it into evidence. Let a five-thousand part of arseniate of ammonia be dissolved in five hundred thousand parts of water, and the addition of the smallest proportion of nitrate of silver will obtain a yellow precipitate. Numerous experiments of a similar nature may be daily resorted to, to prove that the most minute particles of two substances possessed of chemical affinities may be brought into action, although diluted *ad infinitum*. But the power that the smallest particle possesses in producing natural phenomena cannot be more evidently proved than by Spallanzani's experiments in fecundation. This physiologist having wrapped up a male frog in oiled silk, fecundation could not take place; but having collected on the point of a camel-hair pencil a particle of the fecundising fluid, he succeeded in vivifying thousands of eggs. Surprised at this result, he dissolved three grains of the secretion in a pound of water, and one globule of the solution was endowed with the same faculty. In this case the globule of water only contained 2994687500th part of one grain. This curious experiment has been tried with a similar result by Prevost and Dumas. How imponderable and impalpable must be the effluvium which enables the dog to track his master for miles! the particle of otto of roses that perfumes a whole chest of clothes! and what must the power of the aroma be which is preserved for thousands of years in some Egyptian mummies! Would the vulgar believe in the wonders of the solar and gaseous microscopes unless they were exposed to view? where we behold in amazement myriads of individuals in one drop of fluid, each of them as perfect in organisation as could have been the mighty mammoth of old or the sagacious elephant of our days,

endowed with distinct habits, destructive and reproductive propensities and faculties.

It has been advanced by the opponents of homœopathy that the insignificant dose of three or four medicinal globules cannot possess any power, since one might swallow a thousand of them with impunity. To this it is answered, that it is only under certain morbid conditions that these medicines act by their homœopathic affinities. Moreover, it is well known that small doses of medicinal substances will frequently produce more powerful effects than larger quantities. Tartar-emetic, sugar of lead, calomel, afford daily instances of this fact; and it is also admitted that many substances act differently upon the healthy or the sick. An individual in health can take any food without apprehension; but when his functions are deranged, the slightest imprudence in regimen may lead to serious consequences. There are primordial and inscrutable peculiarities in our constitution that cannot be accounted for; and the medicine which relieves one patient will aggravate the sufferings of others. The exhalations of the American *rhus* are deadly to some persons, but innocuous to others; and many poisons which cause instantaneous death to some animals may be given with safety to others. Whence has arisen the controversy regarding damp sheets, which many maintain are not dangerous, simply from the fact that a healthy person with a vigorous circulation may sleep in them with impunity, when a feeble and languid subject will be exposed to some dangerous determination of blood?

An illustrious writer already quoted thus expresses himself on this matter:* "The virtues of medicines cannot be fairly nor beneficially ascertained by trying their effects on sound subjects, because the peculiar morbid condition which they are calculated to remove does not exist." It may be said that this observation militates against the homœopathic experiments, and to a certain extent it evidently does; but it cannot be inferred that because a medicinal substance will occasionally act differently in health and in disease, that it may not frequently operate in a similar manner when the morbid condition does prevail, since it is generally admitted that medicines act in a relative manner according to the state of the system. Hence classifications of medicines are too frequently erroneous and imperfect. The doses of medicines determine their effects. Linnæus says, "Medicines differ from poisons, not in their nature, but in their dose;" and Pliny tells us aphoristically, "*Ubi virus, ibi virtus.*" According to their doses, medicines will produce a general or a local effect; and Dr. Paris, whom I feel much gratification in quoting, lays down as a rule that "substances perfectly inert and useless in one dose may prove in another active and valuable." It will be foreign to the nature of this sketch to enter more fully into this most important subject; but the cases which shall be adduced will be deemed sufficient to convince the most incredulous, of the power of homœopathic doses.

Those who have denied this property have boldly attributed homœopathic cures to dietetic means. Admitting this statement by way of argument, surely, if any observer, by ascertaining the peculiar action of our ingesta, can so regulate the regimen as to produce salutary effects without

* Sir G. Blane.

the aid of medicine, mankind would be most essentially benefited. How many persons do we not daily meet with, who have never taken any medicine since their childhood, when maternal care strove to destroy their digestive organs with apothecary's *stuff*, and who regulate their functions by mere attention to their mode of living. I know one gentleman, a physician, who relieves constipation by green chilies; another, with cold milk; a third, with warm milk; in some habits spinach and sorrel will act as a powerful and safe aperient; in others, cheese, or a hard egg, will operate in a contrary way. Fermented and spirituous liquors all possess specific properties. Some gouty persons cannot drink Claret without bringing on a paroxysm, and others dread a glass of Champagne or Burgundy. Nay, different wines have been known to bring on arthritic attacks in particular parts; and I have known Champagne to produce gout in the wrist, and Burgundy in the knee, in subjects who under other circumstances never experienced the disorder in those articulations. Our peculiar aversion, nay, our dread, of various alimentary substances are well known. The odour of cheese, of strawberries, have occasioned fainting and convulsions; and in certain constitutions several articles of diet bring on indigestions. In short, the study of our ingesta is one of the greatest importance; and here again the Homœopathist is entitled to our best thanks.

This investigation will moreover prompt physicians to be more attentive in inquiring into the various effects of alimentary and medicinal substances on their patients. Instead of hastily drawing out routine prescriptions for such and such a disorder, they will accurately ascertain the physical and moral condition of the subject, taking into due consideration previous habits, predispositions, and pursuits in life. Indeed, it would be desirable that practitioners followed the example of army medical men, who keep an exact register of every individual they attend, and in which is diligently recorded every circumstance connected with the disease and its treatment.

Moral influence has also been called into aid in opposition to this practice, and cures have been attributed to the mere power of fancy and credulity. We have certainly known superstition and mental imbecility to be productive both of good and evil,—to have created maladies, and cured others; but Homœopathy has succeeded when the patient was unaware of the treatment to which he was submitted. But, conceding the point, and admitting that inert substances, such as starch, (and this experiment was resorted to in Paris) may have obtained singular beneficial result,—the results of a weak imagination, this circumstance alone would be illustrative of the power of moral agency; and who would not gladly wish for a mental relief in lieu of a nauseating and injurious course of medicine?

Others will exclaim, although the Homœopathist disavows the *vis medicatrix naturæ*, that he solely succeeds by leaving the malady to the salutary efforts of the constitution. Here again we must admit, that were we to leave many diseases to run their course, we might be more successful in obtaining a cure than by rash and detrimental interference, founded on the principle that a physician "must order something."

But the facts I am about recording,—facts which induced me, from having been one of the warmest opponents of this system, to investigate carefully

and dispassionately its practical points,—will effectually contradict all these assertions regarding the inefficacy of the Homœopathic doses, the influence of diet, or the agency of the mind; for in the following cases in no one instance could such influences be brought into action. They were (with scarcely any exception) experiments made without the patient's knowledge, and where no time was allowed for any particular regimen. They may, moreover, be conscientiously relied upon, since they were made with a view to prove the fallacy of the Homœopathic practice. Their result, as may be perceived by the foregoing observations, by no means rendered me a convert to the absurdities of the doctrine, but fully convinced me by the most incontestable facts that the introduction of fractional doses will soon banish the farrago of nostrums that are now exhibited to the manifest prejudice both of the health and the purse of the sufferer.

Case I.—A servant-maid received a blow of a stone upon the head. Severe headache, with dizziness and dimness of sight, followed. Various means were resorted to; but general blood-letting could alone relieve the distressing symptoms, local bleeding not having been found of any avail. The relief, however, was not of long duration, and the distressing accidents recurred periodically, when abstraction of blood became indispensable. Reduced by these frequent evacuations, I was resolved to try the boasted "bleeding globules" of the Homœopathist, when to my great surprise, I obtained the same mitigation of symptoms which the loss of from twelve to sixteen ounces of blood had previously accomplished. Since the first experiment no venesection became necessary; and the returns of the violent headache were invariably relieved by the same means.

Case II.—An elderly woman was subject to excruciating headache, with an evident determination of blood to the brain. Numerous leeches were constantly applied. The usual remedies indicated in similar affections were resorted to, but only afforded temporary relief. A Homœopathic dose of aconite was given, and the relief that followed was beyond all possible expectation.

Case III.—My much esteemed friend Dr. Grateloup of Bordeaux was subject to frequent sore throats, which were only relieved by local blood-letting, cataplasms, &c. but generally lasted several days, during which deglutition became most difficult. I persuaded him to try a dose of the belladonna, neither of us having the slightest confidence in its expected effects. He took the globules at twelve o'clock, and at five P. M. the tumefaction of the tonsils, with their redness and sensibility, had subsided to such an extent that he was able to partake of some food at dinner. The following morning all the symptoms, excepting a slight swelling, had subsided.

Since this period Dr. G. has repeatedly tried the same preparation in similar cases, and with equal success. In my own practice, I can record seven cases of cynanche tonsillaris which were thus relieved in the course of a few hours.

Case IV.—H.—, a young woman on the establishment of the Countess of ——, was suffering under hemiplegia, and it was resolved by Dr. Brulatour and myself to try the effects of the nux vomica. At this period the wonders of the Homœopathic practice had been extolled to the skies by its advocates, and we were resolved to give one of their supposed powerful prepara-

tions a fair trial. The girl was told that the powder she was about to take was simply a dose of calomel; and on calling upon her the following morning we did not expect that the slightest effect could have been obtained by this atomic dose, when, to our utter surprise, the patient told us that she had passed a miserable night, and described to us most minutely all the symptoms that usually follow the exhibition of a large dose of strychnine. It is but fair to mention that the Homœopathic treatment did not cure the disease; but the manifest operation of this fractional dose, that could not possibly be denied, is a fact of considerable importance.

Case V.—Mrs. —— of Brompton, Bow, had laboured under hetic fever for several months, and was so reduced by night perspirations, that she was on the very brink of the grave. Called into consultation, I frankly told her husband that every possible means known in the profession had been most judiciously employed, and that I saw no prospect of obtaining relief. At the same time I mentioned to him that the Homœopathic practitioners pretended that they had found the means of relieving these distressing symptoms, which he might submit to an experimental trial if he thought proper. He immediately expressed his wish that it should be adopted. I gave her a Homœopathic dose of phosphoric acid and stannum; and, to the surprise of all around her, the night sweats did not break out at their usual hour,—three o'clock in the morning. What renders this case still more interesting is the fact of these perspirations recurring so soon as the action of the medicine ceased; a circumstance so evidently ascertained, that the patient knew the very day when another dose became necessary.

Case VI.—A daughter of the same lady was subject to deafness, which I attributed to a fulness of blood. This cause I clearly ascertained by the relief afforded by the application of a few leeches behind the ear. I was therefore induced, on a recurrence of the complaint, to endeavour to diminish vascular action by a dose of aconite. The effects were evident in the course of four hours, when the deafness and the other symptoms of local congestion had entirely disappeared.

I could record many instances of similar results, but they would of course be foreign to the nature of this work. *I trust that the few cases I have related will afford a convincing proof of the injustice, if not the unjustifiable obstinacy, of those practitioners who refusing to submit the Homœopathic practice to a fair trial, condemn it without investigation.* That this practice will be adopted by quacks and needy adventurers, there is no doubt, but Homœopathy is a science on which numerous voluminous works have been written by enlightened practitioners, whose situation in life placed them far above the necessities of speculation. Their publications are not sealed volumes, and any practitioner can also obtain the preparations they recommend. *It is possible, nay, more than probable, that physicians cannot find time to commence a new course of studies, for such this investigation must prove. If this is the case, let them frankly avow their utter ignorance of the doctrine, and not denounce with merciless tyranny a practice of which they do not possess the slightest knowledge.*

Despite this absolute persecution that *Hahnemannism* (as this doctrine is ironically denominated) is at present enduring, every reflecting and unpre-

judiced person must feel convinced that, although its wild and untenable theories may not overthrow the established systems, (if any one system can be called established,) yet its study and application bid fair to operate an important revolution in medicine. The introduction of infinite small doses, when compared at least with the quantities formerly prescribed, is gradually creeping in. The history of medicine affords abundant proofs of the acrimony, nay, the fury, with which every new doctrine has been impugned and insulted. The same annals will also show that this spirit of intolerance has always been in the *ratio* of the truths that these doctrines tended to bring into light. From the preceding observations, no one can accuse me of having become a blind convert to Homœopathy; but I can only hope that its present vituperators will follow my example, and examine the matter calmly and dispassionately ere they proceed to pass a judgment that their vanity may lead them to consider a final sentence.

Nd.

THERAPEUTIC OBSERVATIONS

ON

CARBO VEGETABILIS,

BY

C. HERING.

Carbo Vegetabilis, though so often applicable in the abuse of Quinine, is still more so, as an antidote to the injurious effects of Calomel, particularly for the sensitiveness to every change of weather, by which its use is so frequently attended. A high state of atmospheric temperature, often causes nausea and sickness of the stomach, which are greatly aggravated by partaking of the tepid or otherwise bad water of large cities. These symptoms (very often to be met with in persons who, by their profession, are exposed to the severest heat of the day) have been frequently relieved by Carbo Vegetabilis, even in some cases, where by the palliating, but too sudden cooling effect of ice-water, asthenic fever had been induced. The latter was sometimes accompanied by diarrhœa, and in such cases Bryonia was administered, either previously, or subsequently to Carbo Veg. It appears singular, that carbonic acid, so well known for its refreshing coolness, was of no avail in these affections. A third, equally new observation, we owe to one of the most zealous friends and advocates of Homœopathy, who, for want of a physician, was compelled to attend his own child. It was but a few weeks old, when, in spite of the utmost attention to clean-

liness, it became excoriated to such a degree, that the epidermis was destroyed, not only at the usual places, but also behind the ears and about the neck, presenting raw surfaces of considerable extent. Sulphur and Lycopodium relived the little sufferer in some measure, but Carbo Veg. very soon effectually cured him. We have since had occasion to observe this effect of Carbo Veg. in several other instances.

During the autumn of 1833, the whooping-cough prevailed epidemically in Philadelphia, and the usual remedies, such as Drosera, Cina, Veratrum and Sulphur, had but little effect in relieving the paroxysms, which generally ended with vomiting; but upon administering Carbo Veg. the disease soon yielded. The same beneficial effect was experienced by other practitioners in 1836, and we likewise found that in the catarrhal stage of the disease, as well as for its sequelæ, it could also be relied on. In catarrhs attended with a characteristic hoarseness in the morning or at night, Carbo Veg. is often beneficial. The influenza in the autumn of 1834, generally yielded either to Hepar Sulph. or to Merc. Viv.; but when the hoarseness, just mentioned, remained or recurred after a new cold, it was removed by Carbo Veg. We also succeeded in curing a considerable number of cases of "the mumps" with Carbo veg., though Merc. solub. is the usual remedy for that disease.

This observation, in conjunction with the one mentioned at the beginning of these remarks, indicate an affinity between Mercury and Carbo Veg., whilst the curative effects of the latter in removing the injurious consequences of ice water, appear moreover, to confirm its affinity to Arsenic, which is already established by the fact that both remedies are often employed in intermitting fevers, and that they have characteristic burning pains, offensive and easily bleeding ulcers and many other symptoms in common. When Carbo Veg., thus appears to rank between two such different metals, it follows, that its affinity with the two, relates to different spheres of action, as we may see by the diagnostics of these remedies. Lachesis is one of the antidotes of Carbo Veg., either, when the latter has been taken in its crude state, or Homœopathically prepared, particularly when its effects are manifested by soreness of the gums, mouth, or throat.

From the effects of Carbo Veg., we also see demonstrated the important truth, that the patho-genetic and the therapeutic effects of medicinal agents perfectly correspond with their chemical ac-

tion, which we see also exemplified in the effects of Arsenic, Causticum, Kreosot, Cantharides and Lachesis which removes symptoms similar to those produced by the bite of a snake. Dr. Franz in treating of Ranunculus bulbosus also remarks, that the local symptoms occasioned by the external application, and those proceeding from its internal are identical, and Y ..... makes the same remark in regard to Ranunculus sceleratus. In order to become duly impressed with the practical import of this proposition, we ought to consider it in its connexion with other doctrines and demonstrate its relation thereto, which our space will not permit us to do on the present occasion. We, therefore only remark, that Hahnemannism, or the patho-genetic action of certain substances, bears the same relation to general organic action, that electricity bears to magnetism. This proposition is of the same importance in Homœopathy that Oerstedt's electro-magnetism is in natural philosophy.

LITERATURE.

Principles of Homœopathy.—By P. Curie, M. D. formerly Surgeon in the Military Hospital of Paris; Member of the Parisian Homœopathic and Gallican Societies, etc. London 1837.

Those, who accord "respectability" mainly to extrinsic properties, will hereafter not deny it to Homœopathy, if they will but take a glance at this most splendid work on Homœopathy.

The reader already acquainted with our science will find little news in this work. It contains however, a very judicious selection of all materials extant, arranged with French precision and clearness, which has often been too much overlooked in some works designed for the public. It is not without pleasure, that we have perused in it old familar truths, embodied in so attractive a form. As a specimen of the manner in which the author treats his subject, we will give the following extract:—

"It will be remarked, that we consider the Homœopathic regimen only as accessory, not curative; and that, consequently, there is a wide difference between the Homœopathic school and that which has been called the *expectant*—that which looks to the efforts of nature for every thing, and proclaims diet, water and exercise, to be sovereign remedies.

No doubt, diet, water, and exercise, are excellent things. Unquestionably, for him who has too constantly remained within doors, it may be well to pre-

scribe exercise. To another, who has gorged himself with the delicacies of the table, it may be proper to recommend moderation in eating, and to dictate such a diet as will give the alimentary system time to recover from the effects of repletion. And, to him, who has indulged in an excess of wine, it may be wise to prescribe water; to deprive him for a time of that in which he has indulged to excess, is easily understood; and *it* may alone be sufficient to re-establish health, which the abuse of it had deranged.

We should not have mentioned the expectant school at all—as it enjoys credit only with those who are absurdly credulous, had it not been that we have always been represented as ranging ourselves under its banner. Those, who have seen the success of the Homœopathic treatment could not well deny it; but they have preferred attributing this success to the *regimen*, and not to the *principle*, and to that curative virtue of Homœopathic doses which we proclaim. Their arguments appear to us quite unfounded. It is easily seen, that our regimen is infinitely less severe, than that, which is commanded by certain other medical schools; for we always allow to our patients a quantity of substantial nourishment in accordance with their appetite and digestive powers.

It is true that, even in this objection, our system of diet is, so far, well understood; but its excellence is dependent on this, that it does not injure the constitution of the patient, and more especially on its favoring the most simple and beneficent therapeutic which has ever existed. But on this point, it has justly been asked,—if Homœopathy has really performed so many wonderful cures by its dietetic prescriptions alone, are not the routine practitioners criminal if they continue to torment their patients with bleedings, leeches, cupping, setons, artificial ulcers, hot irons, disgusting draughts, pills, and other kinds of dangerous and repugnant medicines?

Assuredly, if the Homœopathic regimen contributes to the preservation of health, it has no more power than any other system in destroying disease. And those who advance the opinion, that it is the strict attention to diet exacted by the Homœopathic physician which alone produces a cure, ought to feel the absurdity of supposing examples of such as cholera, typhus, or bilious fevers being cured by such means; and, as regards chronic disorders, no one has effected their cure by a regulated diet alone. We know, on the contrary, that by adhering for a long time to a low diet, the organs of digestion are weakened, the susceptibility of the nervous system increased, and that thus new disorders may be produced. All this is so true, that it is only those of the routine physicians who have very naturally lost confidence in their art, who have adopted this do-nothing practice.

The argument of our opponents is the less reasonable, even allowing it to be possible to cure by regimen alone; for, in that case of what use are the long and difficult studies of the medical practitioner? and why does he devote his time to them if they lead to nothing better than to simple diet? This would be placing a very low value upon the labours of those who have devoted their lives to the advancement of a science, which they consider one of the most important; it would be placing that science itself in a low rank, and it would leave little hope to those who expect to derive from it some alleviation of their sufferings."

"In the preceding pages, I have endeavoured to establish the following truths:

1. That the principle of Homœopathic medical science—the law, *similia similibus curantur*, is re-organized in every known popular remedy.

2. That it explains, in a striking manner, a multitude of cures selected from the practice of all the former schools of medicine.

3. That all specifics, scientific and popular, are in strict accordance with it.

Hahnemann has directed the whole force of his genius to raise the therapeutic branch of medicine to the rank of a *positive science*, by giving it a *fixed law* for its basis;—and he has succeeded."

"The doctrines of Hahnemann open a new era in medical science, throw light on many subjects which were previously involved in deep obscurity and supersede that confused mass of opinions and formulæ which made the doctrines of the old school either incomprehensible or untenable. They introduce order and certainty where formerly reigned disorder and doubt. Medicines whose efficacy has been ascertained by actual experiment upon healthy individuals, will henceforth be preferred to the capricious use of those, which have gained a universal celebrity, owing solely to their successful, but haphazard application in a few solitary cases of disease.

Whether the time has yet arrived, when the passions and prejudices of professional men are sufficiently allayed, to admit of their investigating this discovery with that calmness which its importance demands,—I shall not pretend to say; but, assuredly, the time is now past, to meet it with such exclamations 'as impossible!' 'absurd!' 'to ridiculous to deserve notice!' etc. Experiment is in the power of every enquirer, and, to that test, it will be put by all who are interested in the health of mankind.

Questions, indeed, of far less importance to the community, have been submitted to the investigation of a committee of enlightened and impartial individuals; and I know not why a similar course should not be pursued in the present case. It ought to be remembered, that this is not a matter of trivial importance, but one which is intimately connected with the welfare and happiness of the whole human race.

Were an hospital provided, in which the Homœopathic mode of treatment was permitted to be exclusively followed, and a committee of competent and conscientious physicians appointed to observe, register, and report the effects produced by it,—I have the fullest confidence, that the experience even of a few months would be sufficient to convince them of the truth of the principle, that 'like cures like,' as well as of the curative effects of 'Infinitesimal Doses.'"

Nd.

HOMŒOPATHIC INTELLIGENCE.

Dr. Curie of London in a letter to Dr. Hering of this city, says—that by the indefatigable zeal of Mr. Leaf, he has been enabled to establish a Homœopathic Dispensary in London, (No. 21, Finsbury Circus) Secretary of the Institution, Mr. F. Blagdon Harral, Surgeon, etc. Homœopathic medicines are dispensed gratuitously to the sick poor, and patients received every morning from eight to

ten o'clock. To professional men every facility is given for testing the Homœopathic mode of treatment. During two years, Dr. Curie has administered Homœopathic remedies to the poor at his own residence; but his consultations having been private, the cases, though numerous, and in many instances important, have not borne the stamp of authenticity. This institution will henceforth give to every case a public and valid character. He mentions also, that he has a work on the Homœopathic practice of medicine in press, and that in a few months, he will be prepared for the publication of a Homœopathic Journal.

Liege,—Belgium. We have received from Dr. Malaise of Liege, his "Clinique Homœopathique." When Dr. M. commenced to practice Homœopathy in the province of Liege, there was no other Homœopathic physician in Belgium, and now, he says there is scarcely a town, where there are not one or more practitioners. At Brussels Homœopathy is the prevailing system among the nobility and men of intelligence and distinction. The number of physicians practicing Homœopathy in that city is from eight to ten, chiefly old practitioners, who have entirely renounced the Allœopathic practice. The state of Homœopathy in Belgium is therefore very satisfactory. 'But, says Dr. M.' "it is not without great difficulty and many contests that I have been able to make our cause triumph in my native city. During the presence of the epidemic cholera, I had a considerable number of sick under my care, and have obtained the most satisfactory results; but after the abatement of the epidemic and without its being known by what means I had been able to cure it, the most absurd reports were spread about Homœopathy, and my frightened patients, even those who owed their preservation to it, would not return to my art, and for six entire months, I hardly saw a patient.* Sustained by a good conscience and conscious of the superiority of the new art, the immense advantages of which I had learned fully to appreciate, this did not however, discourage me, and I employed the leisure which was forced upon me, to initiate myself more and more in the knowledge of the German language. Various fortunate circumstances contributed to keep up my courage in adversity; by perseverance I finally triumphed over my numerous enemies and I am now engaged in a large and extended practice, chiefly among well educated and enlightened persons. A controversy, which I had to sustain in the political journals, against one of the most virulent adversaries of Homœopathy, and out of which I came victorious, did much to enlighten the public on a doctrine, which at one time was pronounced as nothing, and at another as a murderous method, by means of poisons, which it was pretended it made use of."

M. Jahr, formerly President of the Homœopathic Society at Liege, author of the Manual, has been appointed Homœopathic physician to the House of Lady Campbell.

France.—Homœopathy is making rapid progress in France; half of the new ministers are in favor of it; namely Messrs. Gasparin, Guizot, and Duchatel.

Dr. Harris Dunsford, writes to the editor of the Bibliotheque Homœopathique in Geneva, that Mr. Langoton, in consequence of the cure of his wife

* C'est tout comme chez nous.

by Homœopathy, had established in his borough eighteen miles from Oxford a small Homœopathic Hospital. Dr. H. D. has been also called to attend the Queen.

Dr. Lehman, Hahnemann's son-in-law has deposited a large stock of Homœopathic medicines in London. (Alfred str. 35, Bedford Square.)

Italy.—Dr. Luizzi, writes from Rome, that the number of Homœopathic physicians was increasing daily in Italy. In Rome particularly, notwithstanding the opposition, this system was making great progress among the public. Dr. L. has many of the most distinguished Romans under his care, among others he is treating now with success the Secretary of State Cardinal Lambrushini, a man of the highest distinction.

Nd.

MISCELLANEOUS.

An excellent writer (Homœopathische Bekehrungs Episteln,) says: The moiety of Allœopathy, and that moreover its bright side, is a badly comprehended and still worse executed Homœopathy. For that part of the old system belonging to the specific method is nothing but an ill comprehended Homœopathy, and does more harm than good on account of its being practiced by large doses and according to material views.

We may do, what we please, it fares ill with Homœopathy; for if it cures a patient, it is of little consequence in the eyes of the opponents and even in those of impartial non-professional men, if the disease was quickly removed by the suitable specific; for how could such a trifle as the Homœopathic medicine is, cure a dangerous disease, and even rapidly! If the cure, however, is protracted or the patient dies of an incurable disease, the Homœopathic physician is again accused, that he has done too little, that he ought to have opposed it more energetic remedies, as the saying is. In short we always lose, do it well or not, as me may.

"But I must first beg leave just to hint to you, that we may suffer very great detriment by being open to every talker."—Burke's Speech to the Electors of Bristol in 1780.

In No. 12, .v 1. of Dr. Dunglison's, American Medical Library and Intelligencer, we find the American Journal of Homœopathy introduced to the notice of Allœopathists. Surprised as we are that the editor, in his self-complacency, should have condescended to mention a "cause so feeble," in his estimation as Homœopathy, it appears almost marvellous to us, that he exempts some of the new doctrines from his anathema, by pronouncing only "most of them (hence not *all*) as idle!" This *eclectic* condemnation is the *punctum saliens* of partially comprehended truth, slumbering in the editor's mind, and which only needs to be awakened to activity in order to compel him to confess of Hahnemann's works what one of the ancient philosophers said of Heraclitus: "*what I understand is so exquisite, that it gives assur-*

ance of the excellency of those things, which are (at present) beyond my comprehension." As to the editor's allusion to the want of that species of "ingenuity" by which "hypotheses" may be framed into more plausible "shape," we do not wonder; for little does he know, that it is the triumph of Homœopathy to rest on a basis as firm as rock compared to the sophistic bubbles of Allœopathy; nor could he admit, that the lack of skill for the "exercise" of such legerdemain logic could easily be supplied from the immense stock accumulating in the works of Allœopathic "ingenuity." And does not the editor himself give a specimen of this very same "ingenuity" by attributing the progress of Homœopathy amongst the medical men of this country to "*profit.*" Whether the writer by the use of this term means *pecuniary* or *scientific* "profit," we are not told. We can assure him however, that whether he intends calumny or compliment, what he says will have but little effect on us.

By a letter received by Dr. Hering from Mr. Mure, Homœopathic physician in Palermo, we perceive that Homœopathy is making also progress in Sicily, and that several numbers of a Homœopathic Journal have been published in Palermo, of which we shall give some extracts in due time. Drs D. Samuel Calandra, D. Antonino Deblan, the Chevalier Aceto and Mr. Maglienti, send their respects to the Homœopathic physicians of America.

PRINCIPLES.

(*From Alexis Eustaphieve's Homœopathia Revealed.*)

Nature requires no other aid than what is necessary to insure, and gives her time to profit by the reaction of that mysterious elastic organism of life, over which she presides alone.

Medicines have no healing or curative power in themselves.

There is no such thing as local malady, disconnected from surgical cases, brought on by extraneous violence.

Cure is merely an expulsion of disease.

Two or more similar diseases cannot co-exist in the same body.

The stronger of the co-existent diseases, whether it be artificial or natural, will absorb the weaker.

The cause alone, remote or immediate, as far as it can be traced, not the symptoms, is the true object of medical treatment.

Disease is a disturbance of the healthy functions of the body.

Every medicine disturbs the ordinary healthy functions, and consequently produces a disease.

All remedies produce diseases in the *healthy*, and cure the like in the *morbid* state of the body.

EIGHTEEN THESES,

ILLUSTRATING THE PRINCIPLES OF HOMŒOPATHY, ACCORDING TO THEIR TRUE SENSE AND SCIENTIFIC ACCEPTATION, ADDRESSED TO THE FRIENDS AND OPPONENTS OF THAT METHOD OF CURE, BY DR. PAUL WOLF OF DRESDEN.

Translated from the German, by C. F. MATLACK, M. D.

(Conclusion.)

15.—THE maxim of leaving the operation of a remedy wholly undisturbed as long as there is a sensible progression in the cure, is judicious and appropriate; but it is in vain to attempt to determine in advance the number of days, for, experience teaches us, that the time during which a remedy operates, depends upon its nature, the greatness of its dose, the disease and the peculiarity of the patient, so that Hahnemann himself could not but perceive this, for he has retracted his former opinion that the repetition of doses, was mostly injurious. Yet how much soever the idea of the protracted operation of a small dose was opposed to our usual theoretical notions, and however ridiculous it may appear to our opponents, the thing is seen in a different light, if by the action of a medicament be understood not its own constant and incessant operation, but the long continuance of the restorative powers of nature, in virtue of the impulse once communicated to them by the remedy.

16.—We cannot consider a wholly derogatory estimation of every other method than our own, as the necessary consequence of our adherence to the latter. The healing art is so far from having attained a state of perfection, that no school has the right wholly to despise or reject the other. We recognise the old method as a grade of advancement in the healing art, but according to our convictions as more imperfect than our own, nevertheless, we do not believe that we can yet wholly dispense with individual remedies furnished by the old method. We will not assert, for example, with respect to bleeding, that, under *all* circumstances it can be avoided. It may be necessary in cases of

enormous congestions of blood in the central organs, where rupture, gangrene or paralysis may rapidly ensue, and it might be feared that an internal remedy would not operate with a degree of celerity proportioned to the danger, or, that it would remain inoperative in consequence of the violent check sustained in the functions of such central organ. We do not admit, however, that it can be considered as involving any self contradiction in Homœopathy, if under extreme circumstances we should not reject the use of venæsection, which, notwithstanding the benefit it here confers. can only be viewed as a palliative, since it does not remove the cause of the disease, but only averts a momentary and threatening effect of that cause.* We may here remark, to avoid misconception, that we by no means acknowledge the indispensableness of blood letting in a concrete case treated according to the old method, as the standard for a similar demand for that remedy, were the case treated Homœopathically; because we know, from experience, how far the efficacy of our specific remedies reach, even in acute inflammatory forms of disease.

17.—Hahnemann does not deny the curative powers of nature, but he describes her operations as not being at all times worthy of imitation, and seldom sufficient. This opinion of Hahnemann, it is well known, is not accepted by the majority of Homœopathists. Our opponents, in order to show how much more highly they esteem these powers than we, attach great importance to the declaration, as though it were peculiar to themselves, that it is always nature which cures, but not the remedy; yet such is precisely our belief. In fact the controversy has no actual object. If physicians of the old school hold these efforts of nature as sufficient, they would consider the art of healing as unnecessary, and we leave it to them to reconcile the high esteem in which they pretend to hold the curative efforts of nature, with the assertion that Homœopathy may conduce to a fatal termination of a disease by the sin of omission.

18.—We protest against the validity of the assertion that there is a difference between the propositions already stated, and the doctrines of Hahnemann contained in "the Organon," and "the Chronic Diseases." It cannot at all be made a question, whether

* It is a characteristic of the indicatio vitalis, that in order to escape a critical juncture, it often imperiously demands something to be done which under other circumstances would be deemed improper.

this difference is only in appearance, and depends upon misconception, or whether it exists in reality. Every one has the right to require that the doctrine which he defends, should be estimated according to *its present acceptation.* What would our opponents say, if, in judging of the older medical treatment, we should take it for granted that physicians in general were governed by Brunonian principles? Every one at all familiar with the literature of Homœopathy must concede, that the writings of Hahnemann are no longer the exponents of the present state of Homœopathy, either in a theoretical or practical relation. Great as is our veneration for his genius and for the *essentials* of the method of treatment discovered by him, we are, nevertheless, as little disposed to bow to the authority of the founder of Homœopathy, as to the theoretical doubts and the ridicule of our adversaries. Our most zealous efforts are much more directed to separate the fundamental principle, *similia similibus,* of the truth of which we are convinced,—to separate *the true scientific element of Homœopathy, the employment of a single remedy at a time,* which can only lead to a knowledge of the sphere of its usefulness,—to separate *the principle of enriching and giving a scientific basis to our knowledge of medicinal agents, by first proving them upon the healthy, and not by random inferences,*—to separate these principles, together with some other practical rules approved by experience, from every addition made for the purpose of founding certain theories and assumptions, which are not necessarily connected with these fundamentals of Homœopathy. Such interpolations, indeed, give to it the semblance of a want of scientific conformity, an imputation quite foreign to its nature, and with which it could have acquired neither the regard of physicians, nor practical success.

These views are so plainly expressed in the literature of Homœopathy, that it must be regarded as an evident proof of ignorance or malevolence on the part of our critics when they disregard them. It is deplorable that after so many years, the discussion has yet scarcely advanced further than to determine the controverted points. As already intimated, some critics have not unjustly remarked, that many extravagant and exclusive views contained in the Organon were not approved of by numerous Homœopathists, who have themselves supplied it with emendations. But worse than all, opinions the most absurd and ridiculous, assertions and principles at variance with common

sense have been ascribed to Homœopathic physicians, which, although they have been often repelled and refuted, are, as we have already shown, again pertinaciously reiterated by our opponents. These circumstances have given to the controversy a most unfortunate direction. It abounds with an odium of expression, a violence of judgment, a mixture of personalities, in short, a tone of discussion for and against, which does not promote the cause of truth, but degrades the respectability of the physician and the dignity of his calling in the community. The foregoing Theses are intended to explain to unprejudiced oppo nents the actual and essential points of difference subsisting between the two schools, in order that the controversy may hereafter be restricted to those points, which are its sole and proper objects. On our part we shall endeavour to give it a more worthy character.

Moreover, we will not conceal our convictions, that for ourselves we expect no valuable results from the further prosecution of mere theoretical discussion. Our opponents cannot prove to us *a priori*, that cures cannot be effected by the application of the Homœopathic principle of healing,—nor can we *a priori* prove the affirmative. Concerning the utility of the trials of medicines upon the healthy and our axiom of administering but one remedy at a time, an explanation to a certain degree may be possible, but the practical import of these matters cannot be illustrated on theoretical grounds. A question the most important, and one, in fact, which constitutes the principal point in controversy, is first of all to be disposed of, viz.—are the dilutions efficacious or not? This question is also not susceptible of solution by mere theory.

There are but few forms of disease of which it can certainly be said, that the interference of art is indispensable for their cure. Hence, it follows that our judgment concerning the utility of any method of treatment, must in a great measure assume a subjective character, and the share which we ascribe to the treatment in the fortunate issue of a disease, depends upon the consideration that the disease has run a milder or shorter course, than, according to our experience, it would have run if left to itself. That we have often observed such favourable changes in the progress of the disease as the result of our treatment, and that we have seen a far greater number of patients affected by serious disease, thereby recover, than when left to the unassisted opera-

tions of nature,—these are the criteria upon which every medical school must ground its conviction of the utility of its remedies. We would not prefer ours to the apparatus of the old method, had not experience taught us that, relatively, the former affords more favourable results than the latter. We certainly do not consider our dilutions as indifferent agents, otherwise it would be a matter of indifference whether we employed the dilutions of this or the other remedy, or whether we were guided by experience or not. Directly the contrary is the case, and hence we never will acknowledge the inference, that our judgment as to the efficacy of the remedy in promoting the cure, depends upon the greater dose, or upon the possible primary exacerbation of the symptoms or increase of the secretions produced by it.* The cures which we have made and communicated do not serve to convince our opponents. They ascribe them to the curative powers of nature, the diet, the influence of imagination, the consecutive operation of remedies previously employed in large doses, or to the suspension of such remedies, and if the case appeared really of two grave a character to be cured without the interference of art, the Homœopathist is no less hardly treated, and he is accused of having made a wrong diagnosis. How easily might he not have mistaken a simple congestion for an inflammation!—A solution of controverted questions would be sooner accomplished, if physicians of the old school would hereafter resolve to prove the efficacy of the dilutions by actual trials. But we must guard ourselves against the deductions which may be drawn from such experiments. The efficacy of a dilution depends, most certainly, upon the necessary condition, that the remedy selected shall be the most homœopathically adapted to the concrete case; the selection pre-supposes a knowledge of the remedy, and that knowledge can only be the result of special study. Besides, it is experience only and a long course of practice which can confer that practical tact which is necessary to determine the greatness of the dose, the time for its repetition, or for prescribing another remedy.

In this state of things, all controversy concerning the efficacy or inefficacy of the dilutions can lead to nothing, but to leave every one to rest in his own views. A final and decisive result

* Such phenomena which do not appear to be natural accompaniments of the disease, we also not unfrequently witness after our [illegible] dose.

of the question can only be possible, when experienced practitioners of both schools shall come to a mutual understanding in conducting their inquiries. This would imply greater unanimity of sentiment, a more decent tone of discussion, and the desire and intention to conduct their investigations purely for the interests of science and truth, and to retract conclusions found to be erroneous, come from whatever side they may. But for some time to come—this desirable termination of the contest can scarcely be anticipated.

ON THE HOMŒOPATHIC DOSES OF MEDICINE.

BY

G. Lingen.

(Continued.)

The Homœopathy of organic life* manifests itself in such numerous forms, that we must confine our explanatory analogies to some only of the principal vital functions.

We again remind the reader of the two propositions to be demonstrated: viz. the dependance of all action on atoms

* As the term Homœopathy has never before been used in so extensive a sense as on the present occasion, we are aware, that the propriety of speaking of a Homœopathy of chemistry, of organic life, &c. may be doubted or disput ed by many; since a pathic state, or a continual suffering of some kind or other, is not generally admitted to be a permanent concomitant of organic life, and to ascribe such a state to inor ganic bodies, appears to the materialist at once as an absurdity. But all depends on the position from which we view this matter. To those who with Buquoy look upon all things as being so many different gradations of life (and that is the position which we assume), there is a species of life in minerals as well as in vegetables and animals, and in conformity with this idea, the main characteristic of life (in as much as it appears to us as such), would be to retain individuality. This, however, being destroyed by chemical action, the very loss of that individuality is in chemistry the analogy of the Homœopathy of organic life. The seeds of life and death of every individual are of the same date, they are always twin-brothers and the result of their constant conflict is, sooner or later, the dissolution of the organism. What we call health is but a relative expression of negative value, meaning only a comparatively inactive state of the principle of death, which, however, never ceases its action altogether. Hence every organism continually suffers partial decomposition, so that its individuality, strictly speaking, is but of momentary duration, a wave in the ocean of life, lost in its ever changing current. Whether we are at all times conscious of the presence of the patho-genetic principle, is indifferent, it is nevertheless a component part of the organism, so that there can be no impropriety in speaking of a Homœopathy of organic life, since this itself is a Homœopathic process.

(Homœopathic doses), and Homœopathic affinity. The genesis of organic individuals, whether vegetable or animal, depends on specific affinity, and every individual, when first entering within the limits of our perception, presents itself as an infusorial point, from which life starts, no matter whether it remain microscopic or, at a later period, attain gigantic size.

The relation between the pollen and stygma consists in that elective affinity, which causes the ovum to react only with a definite, specific pollen, which alone produces fructification. Hence the pollen of a rose is indifferent to the stygma of the thistle, and the permanency of the different vegetable tribes is owing to this provision. In such plants where the position of the antheres prevents their coming in immediate contact with the pistillum, fructification is accomplished by aid of the air (aura seminalis?) or by insects; and although the latter may be guided by instinct, or even by predilection for certain plants, in thus fulfiling nature's intent, and at the same time, gratifying their own appetite for nectar; it can scarcely be supposed that these plants should not receive from their numerous winged guests heterogeneous as well as homogeneous pollen; but the latteronly excites the stygma to such action, as engenders the seeds for new individuals. (The occasional varieties or bastard productions, which form but very limited exceptions to the general law, need not to be considered, where the rule predominates over the deviations from it, to such a degree as in the present instance.) And here again we meet with the interesting phenomenon, already exemplified by chemical reaction, that atoms are sufficient to produce the most important changes.

Two or three granules of the pollen of Mirabilis or Longiflora Jalappa, are sufficient for fructification, and in Vanilla a single anthere fructifies 8000 vesicles. (Burdach's Physiologie I. 539.) The infecting power of the mushroom seeds, which are often floating in the air, is almost infinite. *Fries* counted in a single specimen of "Reticularia maxima" ten millions of sporules; and it is well known, that the seeds of the parasitical fungi, such as the blight in corn (Puccinia graminis), the smut and ergot, adhere to and vegetate on the points of the hair of wheat and other plants. But whatever the propagating powers of these crytogamous plants may be, they only prosper in a homogeneous state of atmosphere and soil (for them the Homœopathic elements), so much so, that the growth of the minute fungi, which form, what

is commonly called mouldiness, is effectually prevented by any kind of perfume, or the odour of Russia leather. Spallanzani's experiments in fecundation have already been mentioned in our last number p. 60. If according to this writer, a fraction smaller than the 200 millionth part of a grain of the male sperm, applied to the ovum by means of a fine needle, is sufficient to produce fecundation,* there needs no further proof for atomic action in the process of generation; and the fact, that the unimpregnated ovum of the cow, is not larger than that of the cat, or that of the sheep just twice as large as that of the human subject, moreover shows, how subordinate quantity is, to quality (dynamis.) (Burdach's Phys. I. 95.) But how does the process of nutrition, one of the most important functions, accord with Homœopathy?

That nutrition is carried on by specific affinity is evident, for it depends on assimilation, which even literally means a Homœopathic process, by which the food must first become changed into matter *similar* to that of the consuming individual, before it can become identified with it.

All secretory organs, as well as the excretory ones, such as the liver, the salivary glands, the kidneys &c. act according to this affinity and this enables us to direct their functions by certain specifics. But upon this point, we believe, all parties agree; it is the quantity of aliment necessary for sustaining life, which seems to mock Homœopathy, and many a remark, supposed to be very witty, has been made in this respect. But what is it into which all aliment, no matter how large the quantity, becomes converted? Physiology answers: into atomic globules, of which those of the chyle itself are the smallest, for they are only 1-7799th part of an inch in diameter, whilst those of the blood are 1-4000—1-5000 and those of the saliva 1-3000 part of an inch in diameter. (J. Mueller's Physiologie I. 8.) Hence nutrition is accomplished by an aggregate of atoms, which are equivalents to so many small doses, elaborated by the digestive organs and repeated in proportion to the waste of substance. That hunger and thirst are not satisfied by atomical portions of food and drink, is no more owing to the want of atomical action, than it would be in the case of an atom of an acid, which could not saturate a larger quantity of an alkali, though it most certainly produces some reaction. Medicines have always been taken in smaller quantities than food, but

* The volume of the sperm thus applied was to that of the ovum as 1:1064 millions. Burdach I. 538.

that in Homœopathy the doses are less than usual, is owing to their acting by specific affinity, which excludes all ideas of saturating the system with any kind of medicine whatever, as both useless and dangerous. The acids of the gastric juice alone are insufficient for chylification, only in union with the mucus secreted by the inner coat of the stomach, that is to say, when converted into a *simile*, do they become the media of digestion, as is proved by Eberle's experiments. He produced artificial digestion, independent of the stomach, by treating the secretions of any of the mucous membranes, even those of the nose or bladder, with acetic and muriatic acid; whilst chylifaction ensued neither by the acids alone, nor by the mucous without the acids. (Mueller 847—848.)

Still more obvious is the play of specific affinity in the functions of the different senses, each of them being confined to a certain medium, so that the eye does not perceive sound nor the ear light and colour, &c.

The phenomenon of vision is, in all its relations, a Homœopathic one, and it presents the main conditions: atomic action, similarity with polar diversity (which constitute polar similarity) in the most striking manner. Whatever theory about light and vision we adopt, whether we believe in Newton's system of emanation, or in Euler's hypothesis of oscillation; whether during the act of vision the eye digests the light, (Lichtenberg) or the first become desoxidised by the latter (Oken); all views concur in the fact that light and vision depend on atomic action. For it must be granted, that the emanated matter as well as the oscillating æther, the consuming eye, as well as the consuming light, act atomically. The picture which we receive from any object by means of the eye, besides being only a "simile", not the actual form, is moreover reflected invertedly on the retina, and the mathematical axis of the eye, instead of being most fit for vision, is totally blind, darkness amidst the very centre of light.

If we look for some time intently upon a green object, the eye, on leaving it, will produce a picture of a red color; if the object was yellow, then the counter picture will be blue, and vice versa, which is not a direct, but a Homœopathic antagonistic reaction, proportional to the intervals of the colors of the prisme, which are equal in number from red to green to those from yellow to blue.*

* We are of course only alluding to the main intervals, not to Newton's division, of the spectrum prismaticum.

As red and purple are the colors most distant in the spectrum prismaticum, so do they also differ most in their effects; the red light being preeminent in caloric, the purple in producing certain coloring effects, not to be obtained in the same degree by any other light, and not at all by the red. Hence the red and purple rays when concentrated, may be considered as the poles of the spectrum prismaticum, and the intermediate colors are the more similar in their effects, the nearer they are to each other; so that the eye by opposing green to red, instead of purple, selects an interval, just near enough to be similar in effect and yet also at such a distance, as to differ materially from the original color in appearance, which is manifestly a Homœopathic act.

As the complement of vision, and touch, enables us to become acquainted with the form and distance of things, so do we by the reciprocal complementory action of all the senses acquire knowledge, which is the product of the Homœopathy of the senses. Hence does it happen that those born blind, after having been successfully operated on, stretch out their hands to touch the church steeple, or that other blind individuals would form the correct idea, that the scarlet color must be something analogous to the sound of the trumpet; and Darwin observed, that those who dream of light, are less dazzled on awaking. Phenomena, analogous to those just stated, do we also meet with in the realm of sound.

A musical ear always hears simultaneously with a well tuned prime its third and octave, so that melody calls forth a *simile*, viz. harmony, which, like the real axis of the eye, lies not within the precise mathematical calculation; it only approaches it, is not congruent with, but similar to it. The radii of sound may put a whole body into vibrating motion, but only on certain points of it do Chladni's acoustic figures form, and its proper sound may be made audible, merely by playing the same note with certain loudness and in due distance on some instrument, whilst a whole orchestra could not produce the same effect, by performing notes different from those of the body in question (Jochman). Here we have general action as simple indefinite vibration and specific effect, as definite sound, of which the latter is the analogy of Homœopathic action, which touches the diseased part, the note out of tune, in a direct manner.

As the fifths on musical instruments must be kept wavering, or somewhat out of tune, to preserve the harmony of the whole instrument, so do we add to the dissonance in the functions of

the body, called disease, a still stronger discord, the Homœopathic remedy, and harmony or health thus becomes restored.

In the process of smelling, atomic action is so evident, that a few remarks will be sufficient to illustrate it. Many of the odorous substances, such as Musk, Ambergris, Castoreum scent large rooms for years, with scarcely any perceptible loss of weight, and yet millions of atoms would be requsite, if we even admit but a few atoms in every cubic inch of the air of the chamber, or of every square inch of the surfaces of all the objects contained in it. The aromatic odor of the cinnamon groves of Ceylon extend from 12 to 14 miles seaward, when the wind is favorable; the camel discovers the water at a distance of several miles, the buck his enemy at 300 paces off, and dogs have scented out their way for hundreds of miles even when blindfolded, for "every lane, field or town has its peculiar smell," which they distinguish (Sir Humphrey Davy). The particles left on the ground from the hoof of the swift gazel, or from the foot of the flying hare, mock appreciation by the scales or microscope, and portions equally minute cause, when inhaled, spasms and headache in some persons, as the odor of flowers, or the exhalation of certain animals, &c.

These are facts which nobody doubts, but are other substances less divisible, because we do not smell them, or is the odor the sole criterion of the inherent power of things? (Rau.) Certainly not, for many of the most powerful medicines have neither smell nor taste.

As the acids of the gastric juice require an assimilating medium before they become fit for chylification, so do odors only become perceptible to the olfactory nerves by the Schneiderian membrane containing a certain degree of moisture, without which smelling is impossible, though the nerve itself may be unimpaired. From this it follows, that smelling depends in some measure on a peculiar kind of assimilation, which proves it to be a Homœopathic process, whilst at the same time all odors are Homœpathic products. For according to Authenrieth, every organ exists not only in palpable, but likewise in gaseous form, that is to say, in a *simile* of vapor with specific smell in the different cavities, structures and secretions of the body. The same phenomenon takes place on the surface of organic bodies, every one of which has its specific atmosphere, a halitus animalis, or vegetabilis, a pneuma which reflects its vital functions in a similar manner, as its form becomes reflected by a mirror. This ac-

counts for the characteristic smell of different constitutions and temperaments and that all violent emotions or passions, such as anger, or strong desires, are accompanied by a corresponding halitus, so that Filippo Neri discovered by his olfactories the „ruling passion" of every individual within smelling distance. So much for the Homœopathy of the senses.

(To be continued.)

On the Homœopathic Treatment of the Tooth-ache, read before the Allœopathic medical Society of Muenster (Westphalia) by Dr. v. Bœnninghausen.

Translated from the German by G. Lingen.

From amongst the numerous varieties of odontalgia the author selects only one species: the throbing tooth-ache, on which he makes the following practical remarks.

I. By taking cold, particularly from sharp dry air, there is frequently a species of fever produced, which is accompanied with congestion of blood to the head, burning heat in the face, hard accelerated pulse and great physical and mental uneasiness. If simultaneonsly with these symptoms a beating tooth-ache is felt, generally confined to one half of the jaw, with a red cheek on the same side, then Aconitum is the specific, which soon removes the tooth-ache together with the other symptoms.

II. Another kind of beating tooth-ache occasioned by taking cold, but without fever, is cured by Causticum. It is generally of a chronic nature, attended with painful, easily bleeding gums, and with rending pain in the eyes and ears, and muscles of the face.

III. Chamomilla will cure a throbing tooth-ache, particularly in women and children, presenting the following characteristics.

It is worse at night, becomes almost insupportable by the warmth of the bed, so that the patient is driven complaining and moaning from place to place. One cheek is frequently red and somewhat swollen, as also the submaxillary glands; there is likewise thirst and perspiration on the scalp. A very small dose of this remedy, or only a smell of it, is sufficient to remove the whole suffering. Some time since, whilst I was absent from home,

my wife was taken with this species of tooth-ache. She applied to Dr. Branco, who then resided in this city. He administered on the first day Aconitum, on the second Pulsatilla and on the third Bryonia without the slightest relief; and presuming that in this case Homœopathic treatment would be of no avail, he finally ordered 18 leeches and prescribed some anodyne mixture. The ease, produced by these means, was, however, of very short duration and the appearance of my wife quite alarmed me on my arival in the afternoon of the 5th day of her suffering, when I immediately administred Chamomilla. An hour afterwards the pain left her, and the next morning the swelling of the face was removed.

IV. The throbbing tooth-ache, which is cured by China, does not occur so frequently. I remember particularly one case, which I met with during a journey through the district of Arensberg. A young girl, hitherto in blooming health, had become pale and emaciated. She suffered from a beating tooth-ache generally after eating and at night, which would be relieved by clenching the teeth firmly together and by strong pressure, whilst a gentler touch would aggravate the pain excedingly. There were also night-sweats and continual diarrhœa, which debilitated her to such a degree, that she was scarcely able to walk. She was relieved in one night by China.

A similar tooth-ache may be produced by the abuse of China, as I had occasion to observe in the case of two individuals, who partook of it every day in their brandy. It would of course have been improper to administer China in these instances, and the symptoms differed so materially, that one patient was cured by Arnica, the other by Pulsatilla.

V. The north pole of the magnet very speedily relieves a throbbing tooth-ache *in the lower jaw*, which is attended with a sensation of burning, with swelling, heat and redness of the cheek, whilst there is chilliness in other parts of the body, tremor and uneasiness in the extremities, with general irritablity. It becomes aggravated by heat and eating. The cure was effected, in many instances, in one minute, by placing the fore-finger long enough on the north pole of the magnet, to produce a slight increase of pain. The following example, though a failure, may illustrate the powerful effect of the magnet in similar cases. My servant suffered from a tooth-ache apparently adapted for the application of the north pole, but the

pain was *in the upper jaw*. He had scarcely touched a magnetic rod which bore only a weight of a few ounces, when he suddenly put the other hand to his face, saying: "there it jumps down" (in the lower jaw).

In order to ascertain whether this metastasis was really occasioned by the north-pole of the magnet, I ordered him to touch the south-pole, and again his hand flew up to his face, for the pain, as he assured me, had returned to the old place again. Pulsatilla relieved the poor sufferer in a few minutes. That could be no imagination!

VI. Another cure performed with Pulsatilla gives me still much satisfaction. Several years since, I stopped one evening during my travels at a hotel, where I met some friends and the young family physician of mine host. I had scarcely seated myself in the parlour, when the oldest daughter of the family begged me, to relieve her from a throbbing tooth-ache under which she had suffered for longer than a fortnight every evening from sunset until midnight. All the means employed had proved useless, according to the physician's own confession, and though, the circumstances did not permit a further inquiry into her case, I let her smell of my preparation of Pulsatilla and the relief was so instantaneous, that even the Dr. admitted, it would be something extraordinary, if this cure was permanent. But I concluded, that Pulsatilla could only have acted so promptly, in consequence of a state of the patient's system perfectly corresponding with this remedy, and therefore told the Dr., if the patient would observe a Homœopathic diet for 8 or 10 days, she would not only remain free from tooth-ache, but her other symptoms would also subside. The young Aesculapius seemed still more surprised and asked: "what other symptoms?" I then acquainted him with some characteristics of Pulsatilla, viz. chilliness, and yet the effect of artificial heat being almost insupportable, absence of thirst, disposition to weep, wakefulness before midnight, unrefreshing sleep in the morning, disgust for rich victuals, &c.

Upon this he replied, that the patient must have had informed me herself about these symptoms, and when it was proved, that I, having just arrived, had only conversed with her in his presence, and within his hearing, he became vexed and rather forwardly accused the patient and her parents of partiality to me and of saying any thing to please me; for it would be utterly impossible to have such knowledge from any other source.

This induced me to take him aside and inform him, that I had reason to suppose, there must he also irregularities in the patient's uterine functions, as well as in those of the intestinal canal, the truth of which he might ascertain himself, if he felt disposed. He not only consented to this, but was also candid enough to confess, that he found my suppositions correct. Though the cure proved a permanent one, I never could discover, whether the Dr. was induced by it to pay some attention to Homœopathy.

VII. The indications for the use of Sabina in this species of tooth-ache are of but rare occurrence, yet I met with some cases where it proved to be the only specific. The throbbing appears likewise towards evening and in the night, becomes aggravated by the warmth of the bed and by eating, and is attended by a sensation as if the tooth was going to burst. There is strong arterial action, belching of wind, and in females, in whom only I had occasion to observe it, copious uterine hemorrhage of light colour, at the menstrual period as well as at other times. In one instance this kind of tooth-ache appeared immediately after a podagrical pain in the great toe had been suppressed by external applications. Sabina, corresponding with one as well as the other of these symptoms, removed them both.

VIII. The throbbing tooth-ache for which Succus Sepiae is the specific, mostly attacks persons of sallow complexion, it extends up to the ear and down through the arm to the fingers with a prickling sensation therein; it is attended with difficulty of breathing, cough, swelling of the face and of the submaxillary glands. The throbbing tooth-ache during pregnancy is often removed by this remedy, which is rather slow, but certain in its operation.

IX. Similar to the tooth-ache to which Sepia is adapted, in regard to the sensation as well as the accompanying symtoms, is that which is cured by Silice. The pain is more in the lower jaw bone, the periosteum of which is swollen, than in the tooth itself; the patient has no rest at night from general heat, and his skin is very prone to ulcerate from slight bruises. I cured myself from an attack of this kind.

X. Spigelia is an excellent remedy for the throbbing tooth-ache which is attended by a rending, burning pain in the malar bone, paleness and swelling of the face, with yellow rims under the eyes. There is also often pain in the eyes, frequent urging to urinate with copious discharges, palpitation of the heart, a

sensation in the chest resembling the purring of a cat, chilliness and great uneasiness. I succeeded in curing such a case of prosopalgia and tooth-ache of several years standing.

XI. Hyoscyamus will cure a throbbing tooth-ache which occurs mostly in the morning, and is occasioned by cold air. The affected tooth seems to be loose during mastication and there is also a violent pain in the gums, congestion of blood to the head, general heat, at intervals spasmodic contraction of the throat, so as to prevent the patient from swallowing, and great dejection of spirits. Jealousy and grief had thrown a young girl into a severe fever with delirium and throbbing tooth-ache, which were removed by Hyoscyamus.

XII. The throbbing tooth-ache which often appears after eruptions, which have been suppressed by external applications, is cured by Sulphur. Such cases are attended with swollen gums, which likewise throb; there is great sensibility of the edges of the tooth, congestion of blood to the head and throbbing headache particularly in the evening; the eyes are red and inflamed and so is the nose; there are stitches in the ear, ineffectual disposition to go to stool, constipation, pain in the back, uneasiness in the extremities, chilliness, drowsiness, &c. If, however, these symptoms should have been occasioned by the abuse of sulphur, other remedies must be resorted to.

XIII. The throbbing tooth-ache produced by the abuse of mercury, mostly worse at night in bed, is generally removed by Acid. Nitr.

XIV. Veratrum is indicated, where there is swelling in the face, cold perspiration on the forehead, sickness at stomach, vomiting of bile, lassitude of the extremities, great sinking of strength, even to fainting, external coldness and internal heat, and thirst for cold drinks, scarcely to be satisfied. An individual who had been suffering in this manner for 22 weeks, and who became so reduced as to be unable to walk, was cured by two doses of Veratrum.

These aphoristic remarks on the varieties of but *one* species of tooth-ache, for which, from amongst 35 remedies, we had only opportunity to try 15, sufficiently do explain the difficulty in selecting the specific remedy for every given case, since many other varieties of tooth-ache bring a still greater number of remedies

into concurrency of choice. Hence the assertion "that Homœopathists need no laborious study," must at once appear unfounded, and though the practitioner may fail, from want of skill, the Homœopathic fundamental law *never does.* Professor Echenmeyer, of Tuebingen, says in his work: Allœopathy and Homœopathy compared according to their respective principles: "The accumulation of extraordinary facts is beyond all doubt, and the reasonable do not expect from Homœopathy what *might justly be demanded* from doctrines tested for centuries past. Homœopathy not only stands severe scientific analysis, but it also presents us with new principles and conducts us into a higher pathology and physiology. Hence then let her have fair play!" With this request, gentlemen, do I conclude my feeble attempt to introduce into our society a subject, by no means favored as yet by its members; but so much greater is the pleasure, which I feel, by acknowledging the noble spirit of calm observation and impartial investigation, manifested by allowing Homœopathy "fair play," until either its truth or fallacy shall have become indisputable.

Dr. FERDINAND JAHN'S CONFESSIONS

On the effects of small doses of medicine. An extract from the first number of his Journal:

Versuche für die praktische Heilkunde.

The author, a distinguished German writer and Allœopathic practitioner, has for several years paid some attention to "famous Homœopathy," as he calls it, and though his en-passant investigation is neither calculated to do justice to our cause, nor entitle him to pass judgment on it, yet his confessions must have considerable weight with his Allœopathic brethren.

Bearing in mind that the Dr., some time since, wrote a learned book on the vis medicatrix naturæ, we must give him credit for the candour manifested by the following remarks: Page 160:

"By those experiments (on Homœopathy) I have acquired more correct views *on the curative powers of nature, her efforts and limits*; on the value, power and sphere of hyporatic expectative medicine; on diet and the different gradations of the starving method; on the medicinal virtue of substances generally supposed

to be inert; on the effect of faith and confidence; on the importance of trying the effects of medicines on the healthy subject; *on the confusion, falsehood and insufficiency of our (the Allœopathic) materia medica;* on symptomatology and examination of the patient, &c.; on the great extent and almost incredible obstinacy of the cutaneous and syphylitic diseases; on the necessity of placing into the hands of bad physicians an innocent toy instead of the two edged sword of Allœopathy, &c." On these and other subjects (quite enough we think) he says, he is indebted to Homœopathy for more correct ideas, and deems it desirable that his colleagues should condescend (?!) to investigate Homœopathy, instead of ridiculing it or crying it down. "These gentlemen (he says) are always boasting with Bacon, that the sole hope is founded on true induction, but these words are not even attempted to be carried into execution, *or the trials do not deserve the honorable epithet of experimental research.*"

"My investigations of the doctrines of the venerable octogenerian of Köthen, now in Paris, have forced the conviction on my mind; that some medicines act in such doses, the minuteness of which would not lead us to expect any effect at all, nay that *some* are even more effective and enter deeper into the system, when administered in doses smaller than usual. I only speak *of some medicines,* because I neither know, nor am I inclined to believe, that all medicines do possess the quality in question, which I ascertained of but a few with certainty." (And yet one should think the author ought to have ascertained it from a good many medicines, before he could arrive at such important conclusions as stated by him. However, be that as it may, he selected for his experiments the only two diseases which he considers incurable by the unassisted curative efforts of nature, viz. goitre (struma) and the genuine Hunterian chancre and gives the following account of his success): "I was surprised to see under the effects of powders containing 1-60 part of a grain of mercurial sublimate, either taken daily or every other day, 7 cases of chancre, and by administering the same portions of Iodine, and in the same manner, 13 cases of goitre cured. The longest period requisite to effect a cure of either of these diseases was 5 weeks, the shortest about a fortnight, but they were all of recent origin, whilst in 10 cases of chronic goitre, and in 3 cases of lues secundaria, the experiments failed, as also those with the smaller Homœopathic preparations." (That Iodine and Mercury, in whatever

dose or form administered, do not cure all cases of goitre and syphilis. is so well known, that it proves no more against Homœopathy than Allœopathy, and as to his want of success with the minuter Homœopathic preparations, why does he not give a fair statement of these cases, by which alone it can be decided, whether the light, which he humbly confesses of having received from Homœopathy, is really sufficient to make him a skilful practitioner of the new healing art? However, in spite of his want of success with those small doses, he attempts p. 166—167, to explain, why in many cases they are preferable to the customary larger ones, so much so, that it would be quite expedient to institute (with the united assistance of the whole profession) careful experiments, be they ever so difficult. He concludes his essay with the following remarks): "I frequently observed, that the human organism may not only in consequence of disease become sensitive to impressions to which it formerly was indifferent, but also by the effect of art, viz. by abstaining from the coarser and violent stimuli, accustoming it to react against such as are of a more refined nature, and to call the instinctive functions of the nerves into action, which are kept dormant during the usual course of life. This may be done by a simple mode of living — — — — by directing the sick to listen to his sensations and symptoms, in short by returning to the primitive state of man, so that his original magnetic power would become restored, which, together with the sensorium commune, or the instinct, has been put into a latent state by the evils of civilization. Whoever studied the mysteries of the ganglion nervous system and their relation to the general history of our race, will know, that man in his primitive state was in more intimate connexion with nature, and more sensitive to her gentler impressions than at present, where the arts of civilization have diminished and partly destroyed that sympathy. The savage and the dog, who perceive things byond the reach of our senses, so constanly blunted by strong impressions; and the instinct of the animals, which excites our admiration because it appears to us prophetic, and that enigma of our time, Caspar Hauser, who like a sensitive plant was affected by the slightest touch, still show the possibility to raise or educate our sensorium to such a degree of acuteness, as to react against impressions, which do not exist for the generality of persons. That the faculties of instinct raised to a moderate degree of sensitiveness may become important for therapeutic porposes needs

no further demonstration, but the question is: what particular cases would it be adapted to. Ad inquisitionem tantorum, we say with Seneca, una aetas non sufficit. Veniet tempus quo posteri tam aperta nos nescisse mirentur.

L

OUR MATERIA MEDICA.

BY

C. HERING.

A. THE HOMŒOPATHIC SCHOOL EMPLOYES THE SAME MEDICINES AS THE OLD SCHOOL.

1. *It cures with them* THE SAME DISEASES

This can be shown from the cures of different cutaneous affections with Sulph., Hepars., Graphit.; of apthae with borax; mercurial diseases with sulph., aur., nitr. ac. sassap.; of ulcers with carb. veget. kreosot.; scirrhus with carbo animal. coninm; of goitre with spongia, iodine; scrophula with baryt. mur., calcarea dulcamara; worm-diseases with filix mas, cina, spigelia, stannum &c.; dropsy with cainca, colocynth. &c.; affections of the breast with senega, scilla, ammon. mur. and many others; inflam matory diseases with mercur, nitrnm; debility by china; haemorrhages with ratanhia &c. bowelcomplaints by Chamom; uterine affections by ferrum, secale, sabina &c., rheumatism by aconit, guajac, rhododendron, colchicum, petroleum; lameness by phosphor, rhus, colocynthis; cures of various fevers with china, digitalis, phosph. acid. muriat acid. arnica &c.; nervous diseases and hysteria by moschus, nux moschata, asa, valeriana, camphor, castor; diseases of the mind by belladonna, hyoscyamus, stramonium &c.

2. *We cure with them the same diseases, without producing any of those violent effects, which were considered not only as unavoi dable, but looked upon as the principal thing, and absolutely essential to the curative effects of the medicine.*

We see this from the cures of sickness of the stomach with antimonium crudum, tartar emetic and ipecacuanha without producing vomiting unless this crisis takes place of its own accord. In addition to this may be enumerated the many cures by drastics

and purgatives without any purging in the same diseases where the old school uses them; such as Rheum, jalap, magnesia, sulphas magnesiae and others. Debilities are cured by China or ferrum without deranging the stomach, and without producing the injurions sequelae often following the application of these remedies. In this manner we cure worm-diseases by terebinth, artemisia santonica or spigelia without endangering the life of the children, we cure by mercury without producing salivation and without destroying the teeth, we cure many inveterate intermittents like the old school with arsenic, goitre and glandular affections with iodine, St. Vitus dance with cuprum, lameness with nux vomica, protraction of labour pains by secale, &c., without those sometimes even fatal accidents of poisoning, which are not unfrequently produced by the large doses of the old school. Thus we also cure with narcotics and other remedies f. ex. belladonna, hyoscyamus, stramonium, hellebor, lauroceras, &c., always without causing the least poisoning effect as can hardly be avoided by the doses of the old school. We cure with cantharides and mezereum often the same complaints as the old school, without producing ischury or troublesome and painful ulcers.

3. *We cure with the same remedies also* MANY OTHER DISEASES, *against which the old school did not know how to employ them; these remedies are therefore more frequently of use to us; and when used are productive of more decided benefits.*

Here it is difficult to make a selection, on account of the vast amount of *materiel*, from which we have to choose. How many cures do we perform with nux vomica, ignatia, chamomilla, veratrum! how many with natr. mur., zincum and very many others, manifesting effects of which the old school had not the least idea!

What a variety of pains do we cure with China, what important disorders with manganum! — We must here particularly mention aconit in inflammations, especially of the lungs; agaricus in diseases of the eyes; belladonna in erysipelas; camphora in cholera morbus; carbo vegetabil. in mercurial diseases, hooping-cough, &c.; artemisia santonica and cocculus in intermittents; cocculus or ferrum in seasickness; colocynth in the most violent colicpains and lumbago; crocus in metrorrhogia, dulcamara in colds, kali carbonicum in consumption, magnesia in very severe tooth-ache; corrosive sublimate, colchicum, colocynthis, &c. in dysentery; rhus and bryonia in typhus; spongia in croup, spigelia in diseases of the heart with many others more.

4. *We cure with many* OBSOLETE REMEDIES; *that is, such remedies, the use of which has become out of fashion. We cure with remedies which were at one time considered too weak; at another too strong; and which could not be prepared in such a way as that their power should be always uniform; nor could the propriety of their application with any degree of certainty be defined; nor their power diminished, in cases, where they were too strong, in such a degree as to adapt them to the indications of diseases.*

To this class may be reckoned; spigelia, cocculus, sabadilla and staphysagria, which were used occassionally for very inferior purposes, and which constitute most important remedies to the Homœopathist.

In the same manner are pulsatilla, bryonia, ledum, &c. quite invaluable medicines, even the names of which are unknown to most physicians of the common methods. To these belong also, aethusa, agnus castus, anacardium, asarum, chelidonium, clematis, corallia rubra, dictamnus, drosera, euphrasia, gratiola, lamium, lycopodium, menyanthes, millefolium, prunus spinosa, ranunculus, ruta, sabina, solanum nigrum, marum verum, uva ursi, verbascum &c. which we find only very rarely mentioned in medical works, and from all of which we have effects, which enable us to employ them in many important diseases.

B. WE CURE HOMŒOPATHICALLY WITH MANY ENTIRELY NEW REMEDIES.

1. *We possess many very important remedies in our materia medica, of the power of wich on the human system no one can entertain a doubt. The Homœopathists have by trials on themselves ascertained to the greatest certainty the principal effects of many formerly entirely unknown remedies and established them by many cures.*

Here we have to mention particulary Platina, a most invaluable medicine, farther; selenium, niccolum, indigo and the important bovista and thuja. Besides that: caladium, cannabis, cyclamen, eugenia, jatropha, oleander, paris, &c. To this class belong also substances, which were, it is true, considered as efficacious, and which were also employed hypothetically, but on account of the uncertain results obtained by their exhibition soon abandoned; for instance phosphate of lime, urea &c. The Homœopathists, however had no sooner made some experiments with them on themselves, than they were able to make use of them with great advantage in most inveterate disorders.

2. *We have elevated substances to the rank of medicines, which were formerly considered entirely inefficacious.*

Physicians almost unanimously held the belief that metallic gold,

silver, tin, had no effect on the human body, and what extraordinary cures have not been performed by aurum and stannum.

We are even at this day still derided if we proclaim the *Silex* as one of our most important remedial agents, invaluable in the most diversified diseases of men and animals, and by which are performed of the most astonishing cures. The same is the case with the pure Alumine, baryta carbonica, strontiana.

To this class belongs also *Causticum*, a substance, which was said not only to possess not the least remedial virtue, but whose very existence was denied by the Chemists. They maintain that it is nothing at all. We will still continue, however, to cure with this *non-existent* substance as hitherto cutaneous affections, ulcers, warts, inveterate rheumatism, spasms and epilepsies, paralysis, diseases of the mind, cephalalgia, diseases of the eyes, blindness, diseases of the mucons membranes, dyspepsias, diseases of the bladder, larynx, chest and heart.

Physicians have hitherto thoughtlessly rolled their pills in Lycopodium without imagining what an astonishing amount of power this despised remedy was possessed of. No one would also have allowed the least remedial power to the brown drawing ink, Sepia, yet we can nevertheless attest its great efficacy from leprosy to consumption in above a hundred of the most diversified diseases. To this class also belong the latest discoveries with psorinum, variolin, &c.

Homœopathic Treatment of Intermittent Fever.

From Praktische Beitræge im Gebiete der Homœopathie,
BY DOCTOR THORER.

(Continued.)

IV.

Febris intermittens tertiana.

A person of strong and muscular frame, 20 years old, has an attack every alternate day, in the morning at 9 o'clock, of intermitting fever.

1) The Paroxism is constituted of the following symptoms. First a cold sensation extending up the spine, which is succee-

ded by a strong chill half an hour, then by fever one hour and finally perspiration; no thirst until the fever has subsided. The attack continues 3 hours.

2) Apyrexia. Tongue white, taste unpleasant, appetite not entirely gone, suffers of Asthma, coughing and expectoration, thighs swollen in the evening, had no passage for 2 days. Had Dropsy 2 years ago, and was cured Allœopatic.

On the 20th Oct. after the 3th attack the patient received Pulsatilla thically and put on moderate diet—Oct. 22th slight appearance of Paroxysm, contined to improve to 26th when every Symptom disappeared—no relapse or any pernicious effect on the system.

V.

Febris intermittens quotidiana.

Heinsmann, aged 40 of sallow complexion, suffers for some time of daily intermitting fever.

1) Paroxysm commences in the morning at 8 with strong chills one hour, followed by fever, and no perspiration, no thirst apparent throughout.

2) Apyrexia. Pain in the breast, cough while lying down, which compells him to sit in bed all night, discharge of phlegm, accompanied by a rattling noise in the chest. Appetite good but eats little, passage regular. The patient has alreahy had 3 decided paroxysms and on the 9th May 1832 after the 4th spell, received Pulsatilla 5.—10th. slight attack for the last time. The pain in the breast not being entirely relieved, another dose of Pulsatilla was administered, and the patient was fully restored on the 23th May.

VI.

Febris intermittens quartana.

On the 14th Feby. 1833. Hagedorn of robust constitution, aged 20, sick of fever, health otherwise good, was taken under medical charge; has for several weeks every 4 days had spells of intermctting fever, for which he has not taken any thing save a little household medicine.

1) Paroxysm. Every 4th day at 2 o'clock P. M. a decided ague about one hour, which compells patient to lie down, and

is previously manifested by drawing on the feet. Then follows a high fever one hour accompanied by thirst and succeeded by slight perspiration.

The disease appears to come under the class of quartan fevers. The good constitution of a patient is favourable to a speedy cure.

2) Apyrexia. The patient appears incapable of making correct observations of his symptoms, complains only of general debility, his digestion is undisturbed, tongue clean and appetite good on fever days, passages normal.

He was placed on moderate diet and on the 14th Feby. after the fever was over, received a portion of Arsenic X^{oo}.

Feby. 17. No relief apparent in this day's attack, he therefore receives daily until 20th next return of fever, a dose of Arsenic X^{oo}.

Feby. 20. Fever appeared to day much reduced, patient received another dose of the same medicine, on the 23d no fever appeared and on the 27th the patient complained of nothing, and was left cured.—No relapse followed.

(To be continued.)

SCRAPS FROM KRUEGER HANSEN,

A Physician of the Old School.

When the regular functions of the intestinal canal are disturbed by physicians with their use of the lancet, leeches, calomel, salts, &c., these gentlemen assume the character of masters in the art of healing. They are not unlike the monarch who, while he silences the plaintive voices of his subjects with grape shot is in fact the destroying angel of mankind. In consequence of this antiphlogistic treatment the activity in the secretory and assimilative functions is suddenly checked, which either causes prolongation of the disease, a protracted convalescence, or the conversion of the inflammatory into a nervous fever. Instead of a resolution of the inflammation in the affected organ a suppuration or even mortification is produced. If the fever is exanthematous, or accompanied by eruptions of the skin, a repulsion is to be feared, attended by other and more dangerous disorders. It is the victims of such treatment which crowd our mineral springs or

watering places. Hence too the lamentations about the increasing decrepitude of the human race in *highly civilized life*. If these consequences do not follow in every instance from such a despotical antiphlogistic treatment, it is no argument against my assertion. Many individuals are blessed from their birth with such a powerful constitution, that they are able to resist the worst kind of medical treatment. But let us remember, that it is not every soldier who is struck in battle by a bullet, that is killed.

I never feel any uneasiness about a recent acute disease, in which the intestines remain torpid; it is a matter of much more concern to me when it is accompanied by frequent evacuations, causing a more rapid sinking of the vital power. The physician, who in such a case interferes with medicines, whatever they may be, by disturbing the bowels, increases the disease, or he prolonges its duration. Should this acute malady have its seat originally in the intestines, or if it is merely complicated with an affection of it, the physician, who then prescribes purgative medicines, really throws fuel into the fire.

The false notion that all these pretended impurities must be evacuated, has always prevailed in the old school; it is still the frightening phantom of the physicians; it has in fact inflicted more wounds on humanity, than all the most disastrous wars.

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*Extract from the new work of Dr. Simpson on Homœopathy.**

Having thus taken a brief view of the practical application of the Homœopathic principle to the treatment of disease, we cannot do better than close our work with a short abstract of the conclusions which Dr. Rau has arrived at, after a thirty-three years practice of the old, and a thirteen years practice of the new method. This gentleman, who is district physician at Giessen and has for years been in the possession of a most extensive practice, has stated them nearly as follows:

* A practical view of Homœopathy, being an address to British practitioners on the general applicability and superior efficacy of the Homœopathic method in the treatment of disease. With cases by Stephen Simpson, M. D. late resident practitioner at Rome. Le vrai n'est pas toujours vraisemblable.—Montaigne. London, Bailliere 219 Regent Street. 1836.

1) The Homœopathic principle, "*similia similibus curantur*," notwithstanding the theoretical subtilities with which it has been attacked, is more and more confirmed by daily experience, and may now be considered as altogether incontrovertible.

2) The treatment of disease has acquired by the application of this principle a much greater degree of certainty; and hence a greater uniformity in the ordination of different physicians is no where to be found than amongst Homœopathic practitioners.

3) That no method onght to be judged of by the practice of a few individuals of the "servile pecus." Physicians of scientific acquirements consider the symptoms as the mere signs of an internal pathological process, and hence only as a guide to direct them in the support of the "vis medicatrix."

4) The Homœopathic method, far from having arrived at perfection, must look for improvement to the further cultivation of science. Being, however, founded upon indisputable facts, it cannot be suppressed by systems erected upon a purely speculative basis. It will then only be consigned to oblivion when it shall be possible to discover a still surer principle for the treatment of disease equally founded on facts.

5) It is highly to be censured that partially educated Homœopathic practitioners should presume to reject every thing as useless lumber which the last two thousand years have taught us. The proper application of past discoveries has been of infinite service to the new doctrine, and the most skilful practitioners are probably those who are best versed in the various methods of treating disease. A general anathema against the Allopathic and antipathic method must, therefore, be so much the more unjust, as in the present state of the Homœopathic system we cannot altogether spare them.

6) Lastly, as compared with the usual method of treating disease, the Homœopathic possesses the following recommendations:

a. That the treatment of disease is conducted with much less expense, as fewer professional visits are requisite, and the medicines, being of little intrinic value, are always distributed gratis: hence its introduction is a great blessing for the poorer classes.

b. That the medicines, on account of their tastelessness, excite no nausea, and may be administered to patients without their knowledge, an advantage of immense importance in the diseases of children especially.

c. That it is a particularly brilliant side of this method, that it is much more frequently possible by its means to suppress severe diseases at the very outset, and thus save the constitution many a painful struggle.

d. That the convalescence is much easier and quicker, since it is not disturbed by the collateral or subsequent effects of large doses and complicated remedies, nor has it to struggle with the debility induced by the profuse evacuations which are the general accompaniments of the usual methods of treatment.

e. That should an improper medicine be given, from the smallness of the dose no positive evil will follow, as the only injury sustained will be from the loss of time. On the contrary, should an Allopathic practitioner commit an error, it is often altogether impossible to correct it; and what is usually termed active practice by the old school is infinitely more frequently

mischievous than the loss of time occasioned by the choice of an inefficient Homœopathic remedy.

Finally, in answer to a report which has been industriously circulated by the opponents of Homœopathy, that the practitioners of the new method use medicine in a highly concentrated and poisonous form, it may be met with a direct contradiction, being absolutely false, as every novice in the Homœopathic method must well know; for, so far from such being the case, the pervading principle of Homœopathic pharmacy is every where dilution and subdivision; and in no work on the materia medica as yet has even a single vegetable alkali been introduced, not even quinine. Let practitioners of the old shool, therefore, instead of endeavouring to account for effects, which they cannot deny, by false assertions, study the subject fairly, and they will then assuredly find that the susceptibility of the animal frame for its specific irritant, is a fact perfectly analogous with that of a chemical solution for its specific reagent, and equally rational, but "surdis narratur fabula."

APPENDIX I.

Selection of cases. In the selection of cases the writer has confined himself almost exclusively to those of a seriously acute character; for practitioners of the old school seem to insist that it is by the treatment of acute diseases alone that the merit of the Homœopathic method is to be tried. Without, in any way admitting the truth of this assertion, being fully satisfied that not only the method but the skill and science of the physician are put to an infinitely more severe test in the treatment of chronic affections, the writer has endeavoured to satisfy the cravings of the profession for acute cases, by the selection of a few from the works of German practitioners of known reputation; for it is in Germany alone, that the method, though struggling with the most formidable opposition from the orthodox professors of the old school, having acquired the confidence of an immense body of the people, is now adopted in the treatment of even the most acute forms of disease, and with a success which has surpassed the most sanguine expectations. In this country, with a few solitary exceptions, its application has been almost entirely confined to the treatment of chronic diseases, and those too often of such a serious character as to have been pronounced incurable by practitioners of first rate eminence; or its application has been limited to the treatment of acute affections of a mild form, as common colds, influenza, sore-throat, derangement of the digestion, diarrhœa, common cholera, rheumatism, and various painful affections of a local character. These diseases, it is undeniable are usually cured Homœopathically in less than half the time requisite when treated by the Allopathic method, and that too without the debilitating evacuations which are an inseparable part and parcel of the latter. The successful treatment of such cases, however, is pronounced by practitioners of the old school to be inconclusive as regards the superiority of the Homœopathic method, the effects, according to them, being all attributable to an

improved diet and the "dolce far niente" system—but be it so; the fact admitted, it must still, however explained, inevitably lead every reflecting practitioner to the no less mortifying conclusion *that the common method of treatment, as every where practiced, is in the immense majority of cases positively injurious and hence absolutely wrong; a conclusion which is usually the first step in the process of conversion of a patient from the old to the new method.*

Inflammations in the head.

FIRST CASE.*

George Moog, a miner of Kœnigsberg, 41 years old, first felt indisposed on the third of August 1832, but sent an account of his illness to Dr. Rau on the fifth only. Judging from the description, it appeared to be a rheumatic fever with congestive affection of the head, for which he immediatedly received a dose of aconite. On the sixth, however, Dr. Rau was obliged himself to visit the patient, as he had become furiously delirious. He then learned that the pain in the head had commenced at the vertex three days previously and then extended itself towards the back part of the head and had the day before acquired such an intensity that the patient himself declared that he should go mad. Towards evening he began to wander and occasionally appeared to slumber for a few minutes.

His head was now burning hot, his face red, swollen and shining, his eyes somewhat red with contracted pupils and great intolerance of light. The lips dry, the thirst unquenchable, no motion for the last thirty-six hours, and only very little urine. The carotides beat strongly, the pulse, however, was not so full as hard or sharp, uneven and often irregularly intermitting. The patient was very violent in his delirium, and throwing himself anxiously about, grinced loudly with the teeth, distorted the muscles of the face in a spasmodic manner, struck his head frequently with his hands and breathed difficultly and anxiously. It was seven o'clock in the morning when he took three globules of belladonna 45, and orders were given to repeat the dose in four hours should no improvement take place. The second dose was accordingly given and was followed in an hour by the most perceptible improvement. The disquiet gradually subsided and after a composed sleep of two hours, perfect consciousness returned. Towards evening the pain in the head threatening to return, a third dose was given. The night was afterwards good, and the following day he was reported to be convalescent. When Dr. Rau visited him on the ninth at Kœnigsberg, he was quite free from affection of the head, only feeling himself extremely tired, so that he could scarcely move a limb or be at the trouble to speak: his pulse beat scarcely forty strokes in a minute. For this he took a dose of digitalis 30, and on account of the protracted convalescence, on the eleventh of August, a similar dose of arsenic, after which he rapidly recovered.

* Ueber den Werth des homœop. Heilverfahrens.

SECOND CASE.*

The infant son of Henry Wagner of Grossenlinden, near Giessen, aged ten months, was attacked in the first week of the hot month of August in the year 1833, for several days together, by diarrhœa with traces of bloody mucus, which was attributed to the process of teething and received but little attention. This diarrhœa soon ceased, and for eight days the child appeared quite well; but on the fourteenth of August again became ill with great heat of the skin and occasional vomiting: it also refused the breast and passed no urine during the whole day. In the evening, about ten o'clock, the eyes became distorted and the muscles of the face convulsed. The medical attendant was instantly sent for and found the child in a burning heat and the cheeks like fire; perspiration was only to be observed at the back of the head, to which part the child often extended both its hands with great haste. The eyes were particularly intolerant of light and the pupils contracted; the lips of a deep red and half open; the tongue clean and moist. The carotid and temporal arteries might be seen beating strongly and quickly, and there was subsultus tendinum at the wrists: the breathing was quick and moaning. For the last twenty-four hours the infant had had no stool, passed no urine, and the secretion of the pituitary membrane was quite stopped. The child gave no signs of knowing its parents; it lifted its feet alternately to throw off the bed-clothes and kept constantly turning its head as if to force it deeper into the pillow. Two globules of aconitum 30 were immediately introduced into the mouth, and a similar dose of belladonna was left, with orders to give it in two hours.

On visiting the child the following evening it was found that it had had rather a loose motion, had passed some very strongly smelling urine and given some signs of hearing; it had also endeavoured to take the nipple, but immediately let it go again. In the course of the day, the child had four times violent convulsions, but further than squinting with the right eye, no essential change had taken place. Milk, which was put into the mouth with a spoon, was held there for some time and then unconsciously swallowed. It was now ordered two globules of belladonna 45 every four hours.

On the following day it was reported to the physician that before midnight the child had slept quietly, but about one o'clock was seized with a convulsive fit; after which, however, it again slept for two hours and then took the breast. The belladonna was ordered to be continued. On the next day the scene was completely changed: there was a general, but cold and to the touch extremely unctuous moisture upon the relaxed skin; the heat of the head, however, still continuing, and every hair dripping with sweat; the face was pale with frequent alternations of flushing of the cheeks; the eyes were sunk, half open; the squinting and dilated pupils continued, and there was now insensibility to the light of day; the mouth was open; the extremities trembling and occasionally convulsed; the pulse quick, small, indistinct, and vibrating like a thread. The child had had in the night, immediately after an attack of convulsions, two watery, offensive motions and had passed much urine. It appeared at times to hear in its soporose state, at

* Ueber den Werth des homœop. Heilverfahrens.

others not; occasionally, too, upon putting the nipple into the mouth it made a couple of pulls, but then let go again. It was evident that the state of erethism of the brain had passed into one of paralysis, which consequently required a different remedy. A dose of the thirtieth dil. of arsenic was therefore now prescribed, and with such effect, that before the lapse of eight hours so favourable a change had taken place, that the parents considered their child as saved. The warmth of the surface became general, and the infant took the breast with apparent pleasure. To conclude, within the following ten days the child had convulsions three times, consciousness, however, gradually returned, and at length perfect recovery. At first the dose of arsenic was repeated night and morning; as improvement advanced, it was given only once a day, and at last only every third morning: so that the child in all took fourteen doses. The child is still alive, perfectly healthy, and not a trace remains of the squinting.

THIRD CASE.*

A boy, about three years of age, had to all appearance gotten over the scarlet fever of a mild character happily, when, suddenly and before the desquamation was completed, the glands of the neck and about the ears began to enlarge, and symptoms of a dangerous affection of the brain supervened. The child lay in a lethargic state, speechless, with its face puffed and inflamed, the breathing short and jerking, whilst the feces and urine were discharged involuntarily; the feces were watery and offensive and the urine of a deep red colour. The loss of speech, however, was the less remarkable, as upon examination the whole interior of the mouth was found to be in a highly inflamed state. How unfavourable the prognosis under such circumstances necessarily is, must be evident to every practitioner: and patients in scarlet fever have thousand of times been lost under symptoms of a less formidable nature. Dr. Gross looked upon the case as hopeless, though he hastened to prescribe the specific for this form of disease, and ordered four globules of the thirtieth dilution of belladonna every four hours.

During the first twelve hours the effects of the medicine were not very apparent: the next day, however, they were not to be mistaken, and the dose was in consequence exhibited every six hours only. After twenty doses had been taken the patient was evidently more collected; he still slept a great deal, it is true, but he could be aroused, and the excrements were no longer passed involuntarily and were more natural in character; the mouth, too, was desquamating, and the glands of the neck and and ears were almost normal in size. After the disposition to sopor had been overcome by a couple of doses of antimon. tart. 12, two doses more of belladonna restored the patient to a state of reconvalescence.

* Archiv für die homœop. Heilkunst. XII Band.

(To be continued.)

Dr. J. G. ROSENSTEIN

HAS DELIVERED A SERIES OF DISCOURSES ON THE MEDICAL SYSTEMS, IN THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE.

A short extract of the first lecture may be traced in the following.

If the science of medicine had rested on a solid foundation, if theory had at all times have been the same, its practice would not have undergone as it has, from one age to another, the most extraordinary changes.

Physicians ancient as well as modern, those of all countries, and of every school, would at least on the same point have remained unanimous in their opinion. But let us trace the history of their opinions, and we shall discover the greatest diversity to exist in their respective views.

Herodicus overthrows the edifice raised by his predecessors. Hippocrates in his turn destroys the greater part of that built by Herodicus, The schools of Cnidos and Cos are in perpetual opposition. The dogmatics endeavoured to arrive at truth by means of hypothesis and a series of reasonings. The empirics on the contrary would almost banish reasoning from their practice and restrict it to the pure and simple observation of facts.

Asclepiades establishes a new system of medicine founded on the corpuscular philosophy. He believes that on the more or less intimate degree of relation existing between the mollicules and pores through which they must pass depends health or disease.

Themison, born 123 A. C. a pupil of Asclepiades establishes the *methodic* system. He presupposes the existence of a first original disease inherent to the tense, lax and mixed condition of the firm parts of the system. This school was the reunion point of both *Emperies* and *Dogmatics.*

The *Pneumatics* placed the seat of life in the air circulating in our vessels, all aberrations from a state of health depend, according to these, on the derangements of its movements. They taught that an all pervading spirit sustained the health of the system, and prepared its recovery.

Galen resuscitates the Hippocratic medicine, the crisis, the powers of nature, the faculties, the combination of the elements, dryness, humidity, heat and cold are again brought forward and to afford a greater degree of splendour to the systems of tem-

praments, he completes the doctrine of the humours, of which Hippocrates had presented but a sketch.

The *Arabs* nurtured with the dreams of philosophy, introduce into medicine the abstraction and formulæ of Aristotle. In their hands the science becomes peripatetic, in the same manner that it had been Epicurian iu those of Asclepiades, and in a similar way that it has since been at different times *Cartesian*, Newtonianen. The translation of their works into Latin is barbarous, and its comprehension difficult.

Nevertheless among the whole lot of quibblintt sophistry, we occasionally meet with some sterling remarks.

The Salernian Institute was already known in the tenth century, and king *Roger* extended to it the first patronage. In practice they loved simplicity.

Their wisdom may be learned in the following lines. They said:

si tibi deficiunt medici
medici tibi fiant haec tria,
Mens hilaris, requies moderata, Diæta.

Paracelsus gave a new impulse to science. His clear mind broke through the trammels of the contemporaneous systems. He studied nature. She was to him the source of his science. But his proud independence drew upon him the hatred and malice of those who fed upon the credulity of the multitude.

Hence the misrepresentations respecting his principles and practice, which have been too often repeated. It is but recently that the ingenuity of his thoughts have become appreciated by discerning individuals, and can be predicted that his name will be one of the ornaments of medicine.

The *Chemists*, or at least those among them, who may considered as the least extravagant of all, view the human body as a laboratory; its organs are transformed into *alembics*, *stills*, *matrasses*, &c. Like Prometheus of old, they imagine that it is possible to steal fire from heaven, and to excite or retard its progress with as much to [illegible], as they do that of their furnaces. They speak of nothing else but *precipitations*, *fermentations* and *cohobations*, the acid combats the alkali, the alkali neutralizes the acid. From the effervescence produced by the union of these two adversaries, result animal heat and life. Medicines produce their effects by virtue of their chemical properties, and of those of the humours with which they come in contact and from this it very naturally

follows that experiments performed in dead bodies, will serve to illustrate the effects likely to arise in the living system.

Were we prepared to credit the geometrical physician, we could with the aid of algebraic calculations explain all the movements of the body, all vital tendencies and all the functions. The greater or less acuteness in the angles of the vessels their diameter, axis their straightness or curvature, the compound ratio of the action of solids, the impulse of the fluds, and their reciprocal resistance; all these is necessary to be well understood to enable us to form a just idea of life, and likewise to comprehend the manner in which it is excercised, kept up, repaired and finally is extinguished in a similar way that a ball stops, when the force by which it has been moved is destroyed through the effect of friction.

According to the natural philosophers, the great problem of life can only be solved by calling to our assistence attraction, *cohesion*, elasticity, force and counterforce, in fact all the laws which govern inorganic matter.

Listen to the mechanics, they sometimes call into requisition *pullies*, *levers*, fulcrums, at others, tubes, valves, pistons. One would imagine himself placed in a watchmaker's shop, whilst by the ancients he is is in truth led into that of nature, which they compare to that forge of Vulcan where the tools as well as the works of the artist were all endowed with animation, and from whence tripods were seen to proceed of themselves to the banquets and councils of the Gods. With the beginning of the eighteenth century, arose the system of Stahl and some what later Boerhave, the ingenious Stahl concedes to the cause of vital action, intelligence, deliberation and choice, in his theories he assumes the first cause of disease to be seated in both the fluids and firm parts of the system.

According to the enlightened Boerhave chemistry, natural philosophy, geometry, mechanics, may all be applied with advantage to medical science.

During the latter part of this century, the *humoral pathologie* was again extensively practised.

Another sect to which I will class, Cullen, Mcbridge and Rolest white and others denied to the fluids any agency in the production of diseases and placed the cause of all maladies in the nervous system.

To this period also belongs the first appearence of the Mes-

merian system, better known under the name of *animal magnetism.*

Mesmer the founder of this system, asserted that every man posseses more or less magnetical power, which through manipulations may be transfered to the sick and restore them to health.

John Browns system which during the latter part of the past century was almost exclusively followed by the most enlightened physicians of the continent. The main feature of his system was, that life is a forced state, and the cause of all diseases may be looked for, in a plus or minus of excitability in the vital principle according to his theorie, stimulating remedies suited to the degree of excitability, are the most proper agents to subdue human maladies.

The schools of Corvisart, Pinel and Fourdes are merely contending nosologists. It is otherwise with the school of *Broussais.* He originates all maladies from an Irritation (subinflammatio) of the mucous membrane of the digestive organs (Gastro-enterite c'est la base de toutes les maladies). He is particularly attached to bleeding, and local application of leeches at the regio Epigastrica. The doctrine of Broussais under the name "la medicine phyiologique ! !" established itself.

Brandis and Hufeland considered the reaction, of the vital power as the point upon which every thing depended as well as theoretical as practical point of view.

This rapid outline of the revolutions experienced in medical theories also far from complete, will nevertheless be found sufficiently compshensive to show, that the healing art has not yet arrived at that perfection where after so many centuries one might expect it to be.

(To be continued.)

C. PLINII SECUNDI HISTORIÆ NATURALIS,

LIBER XXIV. CAPUT.—EDID. TAUCHNIT. LIPS

1. Sola naturæ placuerat esse remedia parata vulgo, inventu facilia, ac sine impendio, et quibus vivimus. Postea fraudes hominum et ingeniorum capturæ officinas invenere istas, in quibus sua cuique homini venalis promittitur vita. Statim compositiones et mixturæ inexplicabiles decantantur. Arabia atque India in remedio æstimantur: ulcerique parvo medicina a rubro mari imputatur: cum remedia vera quotidie pauperrimus quisque cœnet.

1. It had pleased to nature that there should only be remedies commonly to be had, easy to be found out and cheap, and on which we live. Art of men and the desire to captivate the minds of the people, have afterwards invented those drug shops where every one is promised, that he may purchase his life. Presently inexplicable compositions and mixtures are praised incessantly. Its coming from Arabia and India is valued in a remedy and for a small sore a medicine brought from the Red Sea is extolled, whereas the true remedies serve as daily food to the poorest people.

LIB. XXVI. CAPUT. 56.

2. Non fecit ceratum, emplastra, collyria, antidota parens illa ac divina rerum artifex: officinarum hæc, imo verius avaritiæ commenta sunt.—Scrupulatim colligere ac miscere vires, non conjecturæ humanæ opus, sed impudentiæ est.

2. That Parental and Divine author of things has not made cerate, plaisters, eye-waters and antidotes; these are fabrications of drugsters, or rather of avarice.—To gather and mix medicines by scruples, is the work not of intelligence but of human presumption.

LIB. XXIX. 5.

3 Nec dubium est, omnes istos famam novitate aliqua aucupantes anima statim nostra negotiari. Hinc illæ circa ægros miseræ sententiarum concertationes, nullo idem censente, ne videatur accessio alterius.

Hinc illa infelicis monumenti inscriptio, turba se medicorum perisse. Palamque est ut quisque inter istos loquendo polleat, imperatorem illico vitæ nostr ænecisque fieri: ceu vero non millia gentium sine medicis degant, nec tamen sine medicina.

3. And there is no doubt, that all those, who catch at fame by something new, bargain directly with our life. Hence too those miserable disputes about words around the patients' beds, where no one is of the same opinion, that we may not seem to concede to another. Hence that melancholy monumental inscription: he perished by the multitude of his physicians. And it is evident, that whoever of those is distinguished by his power of speech, becomes immediately the arbiter of our life and death; as if not thousand patients lived without physicians, though not without medicine.

IBID. CAP. 8.

4. In hac artium sola evenit ut cuicunque medicum se professo statim credatur, cum sit periculum in nullo mendacio majus. Non tamen illud intuemur, adeo blanda est sperandi pro se cuique dulcedo. Nulla præterea lex quæ puniat inscitiam; capitale nullum exemplum vindictæ.

4. In this art only it happens that any one professing himself to be physician is immediately believed, though there is no imposture more dangerous. We do not, however, pay attention to this, so flattering to every one is the sweetness of hoping the best for himself. There is besides no law to punish ignorance nor any capital example of retribution.

Every unsophisticated reader will, in reflecting on the above extracts from Pliny, find that the disposition of mind of the great mass of mankind is still the same; and that, what Pliny wrote 1800 years ago, may with equal justice be applied to our times. We think it almost needless to add that what has been said above about the perversion of physicians, neither does, nor can concern those *true* physicians whose chief aim is the enlargement of genuine science and the spread of truth, and to whom pecuniary advantage, is merely a secondary consideration, but who alas! constitute but a small minority of those professing our beneficent science. — *Sapere aude.*

Dr. H. Scholl.

Philadelphia, October 1, 1838.

REMARKS ON THE HOMŒOPATHIC TREATMENT OF CHRONIC DISEASES, WITH CASES FROM PRACTICE.

BY

C. Neidhard, M. D.

Homœopathic writings have sometimes been charged by critics of the common method, with beginning and ending with *symptoms and remedies, and remedies and symptoms,* and with being devoid of *physiological* and *pathological* detail. No one, at all acquainted with the wants of medical science will deny at this day the necessity of the study of these departments of it by the physician, nor refuse to acknowledge the light they have in many respects thrown on the diagnosis of diseases. Pathology will however, by the direction which Homœopathy will give to its cultivation, undergo a complete reform. For the present the Homœopathic School must concentrate all its energies in the cultivation of its *materia medica* and *practice of medicine,* as in them lies its peculiar strength; and on them, that is on the *results of pure experience* (a feature in this system which distinguishes it from all others) must the future superstructure be built. Recognising this as its chief duty, it will borrow without hesitation whatever is valuable in the aetiology, nosology and pathology of the old system, it being conscious of the ample returns which it is able to make, and of the more valuable contributions which it is destined to lend, to the progress of medical science and to the direct promotion of the interests of mankind.

Conceding therefore, to the old system what is justly its due, we cannot shut our eyes against the lamentable destitution of real positive knowledge which characterises all its practical works. This is a fact, with which we have been particularly struck on looking over some of the late works on the practice of medicine. They are an endless mass of ingenious speculations

and hypothesis. If there be any thing of practical value found in them, it is for the most part so narrow minded, so entirely calculated for mere momentary relief, and generally so mechanical in its operations, that we have often asked ourselves, what can be the physiological theories of writers, who endeavour to cure human maladies by such material and rude contrivances? An enumeration of a long list of medicines for general indications, is repeated, as if these medicines could furnish no specific indication for their application in disease. The indispensable necessity of the strictest individualization of every case and the investigation of apparently the most trifling phenomena, demanded by the Homœopathic School, seems never to enter the minds of the great mass of writers, a few of the most eminent practitioners of all times excepted. Of late the attention of physicians has been more generally drawn to this subject in France.

We may be permitted, therefore, to pass over the many speculations and reveries on the nature of chronic diseases, as well as the ideal pathological arrangements, which according to our opinion are only calculated to confuse the understanding and will not advance the practice of medicine one step.

Hahnemann furnishes us with the following definition of chronic diseases:

"Those diseases are improperly called chronic, to which persons are subject, who are continually exposed to avoidable injurious influences; who, for instance, inhabit unhealthful countries, are engaged in immoderate labours of body and mind, are deprived of exercise and air, are tormented by continued grief, or use unwholesome food, and drink, &c. Cachexies and sufferings arising from these causes are cured by removing for ever the exciting causes of illness, provided that no chronic miasma is concealed in the body."

"Real chronic diseases are those, which derive their origin from a chronic miasma, which, in spite of the best physical and moral regimen, are always increasing, and which torment the patient to the end of his life if not cured by specific remedies. These are the most numerous and terrible enemies of the human species; for neither the strongest constitution nor the most perfect regimen, nor the most energetic vital power can annihilate them."

Of these chronic miasma Hahnemann recognizes three, the *psoric*, *sycotic* and *syphylitic*. In the *psoric* virus, according to

Hahnemann, the majority of chronic diseases find their origin, with which opinion many Homœopathic physicians coincide. Dr. Leon Simon, of Paris, in his lectures on Homœopathy, mentions, that in his clinic of 53 chronic cases, 48 could be traced to the itch and in the dispensary of Curie 37 of 55. In all records of Homœopathic Hospitals a majority of chronic diseases were always found to be of acknowledged psoric origin.

Whether we call this virus psora or merely *dyscrasia* as has been proposed by Dr. Rau and other Homœopathic physicians, seems to us of slight importance in a practical point of view. We know by experience that there exists in some persons a peculiar tendency to inveterate chronic disorders, from which others are entirely exempt, although these latter may have much more and oftener been exposed to those influences or causes, from which chronic diseases are usually said to derive their origin.

On inquiry, it will be found, in the majority of cases, that such persons have at some period of their lives been subject to one or the other of the three chronic miasmas, or that their parents had been afflicted with diseases similar to those from which they suffer. These miasmas being repelled from the surface by the usual routine practice, or treated otherwise improperly, may often long remain dormant in the system, and only show a few of their symptoms; but with the advance of years, particularly if favoured by external causes, they gradually develope themselves in the form of those for midable chronic diseases, which now afflict the majority of mankind

A chronic disease may be compared to a habit, commencing often with scarcely perceptible symptoms, induced by the slightest causes, but which gradually take possession of our whole system. In youth where the powers of nature are yet in their full strength, or even in more advanced age, where they have not existed too long, they will seldom long resist a judicious Homœopathic treatment, but when old hereditary miasmatic diseases, have grown up with the patient and become as it were his second nature, a cure can in many instances only take place by effecting a total reformation of the whole system; a fact constantly to be kept in view.

The groundlessness of the objection, therefore, made by some persons to the length of time required in Homœop. cures in old chronic diseases will at once become evident. If we consider the nature of such diseases, we shall readily perceive that they must, even if apparently removed, renew their attacks from time

to time until their *habit* is eradicated. Old deep-seated chronic diseases, cannot in fact be cured permanently in a short time. This would be contrary to all analogy, and ought not in reason to be expected. It is just as difficult for persons having for a long time been in the enjoyment of vigourous health to acquire suddenly a tedious chronic disease, as for others having long been afflicted with inveterate chronic disorders to get rid all at once of these diseases, and pass over immediatedly to a perfect state of health. The transition from health to disease as well as from disease to health in such cases must be gradual. Notwithstanding the clear evidence of these facts, we see some wonder at the length of time requisite for Homœopathic cures.

If the common physician can only give immediate (though it be temporary) relief, he is pronounced a master. A method seeking the *permanent* relief from disease is not yet estimated at its proper value in an age, where many only want continual uninterrupted sensual enjoyment, and where they chiefly value the physician who, by some little contrivance or *mechanically* operating remedy, knows how to silence a troublesome chronic symptom. They hardly perceive, that this symptom is gradually increasing in the frequency of its returns, and that the dose of the physician's palliatives must be increased, until a disease, which might at first have been easily cured by appropriate specific medicines, degenerates into a formidable chronic disorder. The routine physician, who has so long played with this disease, merely silencing symptoms, confesses now his inability to cure it, and the patient is left to his fate. They know not, nor do their patients seem to know it, that it is as much the duty of the physician to prevent chronic diseases as to cure them. But this the present system cannot do, as is proved by the experience of 2000 years. The noblest aim of the physician must be to root out gradually deep seated chronic diseases, by investigating more and more their causes and by endeavouring to obviate them; and if we only think of the different Homœopathic Hospital-Reports, the hope that Homœopathy is destined to lead mankind gradually to greater health (and consequently to purer morals),* is not extravagant. By observing the state of health of

* A person e- g. is subject to gout, brought on chiefly by a luxurious manner of living. The disease every year gets worse. His Allœopathic physician is consulted at every acute attack, which with difficulty is subdued by the usual routine practice. The attacks, however, recur oftener and oftener; his sufferings become most acute

numerous families before and after they had recourse to Homœopathic treatment, we know that we are sustained in the position which we have taken.

One of the most important acts of the Homœopathic physician, on the proper execution of which the cure, particularly in chronic diseases, often entirely depends, is the *examination of the patient.* A Homœopathic physician who is negligent in this process and does not most carefully investigate the whole portrait of the disease, and mark it down with his pencil, cannot be considered as a Homœopathic physician, and no trust whatever can be placed in him. It is impossible for him, even with the best memory, to retain the minutiae the knowledge of which is of vital importance in the treatment of the disease. He imitates the routine practice of the old school and will only perform a cure by chance A Homœopathic physician, fully imbued with the real spirit of his doctrine, will not only inquire into the present symptoms of the disease, which he has to treat, but into the whole history of the patient from his childhood. Besides that he will regard his hereditary predisposition, and if possible endeavour to discover the more immediate cause of the disease; he will in a word by close examination make himself thoroughly acquainted with the whole *individuality* of the case.

Some patients are averse to a close examination of their complaints, imagining this serious duty of their physician to be a mere whim. *Hahnemann*, so successful in the cure of chronic diseases, has retained this salutary practice even to his now very advanced age, and his numerous patients in Paris of all classes

and his health is finally much deteriorated. Asking his physician if it is not possible for him to obtain permanent relief, this kind friend, unable to cure his disorder, consoles him with the declaration: ***that his disease was all imaginary and there was in fact nothing the matter with him.*** But for once the anxious patient rouses himself and summing up the last strength of his mind he applies to a Homœopathic physician, who, his friends have told him, could cure such *imaginary* diseases! This physician regulates at once his diet, imparts to him new views of the different articles of food, and then prescribes the proper specific medicine, which seldom fails to give permanent relief even in the worst cases. The gradual improvement in health will operate a corresponding improvement in his moral condition, and he finally almost becomes a new being. Such is the history of many Homœopathic cures. What Homœopathic physician has not in many cases observed after a Homœopathic treatment of some months a most happy change in the entire being of the patient? His formerly sallow countenance has become animated, there is a fresh lustre in the eye, and his mind seems also to participate in this reformation of the body.

must all undergo the most minute and closest investigation of their symptoms. Homœopathic practitioners generally follow this practice at the commencement of their career; but many of them too often neglect it afterwards. After having performed some cures, as one practising Homœopathy can hardly fail to do, and as the influx of patients increases, they too soon accustom themselves to a routine habit of prescribing. Is not the complaint made by some Homœopathic physicians, that they could never perform the some remarkable cures after some years of practice, as they did at the beginning, partly to be ascribed to this cause? That there are a few, who, possessed of great practical tact and sagacity, discover the specific as it were by instinct, we are well aware. We have known such physicians ourselves. But this tact and peculiar sagacity is an individual property and the majority will have to pursue a different course.

The next step of the Homœopathic physician consists in regulating the diet and of prescribing the proper specific medicine.

That those who have never experienced the effects of Homœopathic medicines on themselves or witnessed them in others should ascribe Homœopathic cures to the diet, we are not surprised. Most Homœopathic physicians have perhaps been once in the same predicament. But when we see some, who have in numerous instances witnessed their good effect either on themselves or others still obstinately adhere to their first impression, we can only mourn over the weakness of the human mind. Their educational acquired notions of the effects of medicines appear to have impressed upon them the belief, that if the system is not *violently agitated* by medicines, they can have no effect; and nothing gives such persons more joy, than to see, what they call *evident effects;* that is the obnoxions primary operations of the drugs, to prevent which ought to be the chief endeavour of the physician. They appear not to comprehend the whole power and importance of the new art, and often frustrate the best concerted Homœopathic treatment by the use of all kinds of nostrums, supposing to accelerate the cure by these means. This is particularly the case in cutaneous diseases- I wish my voice could here be strong enough to warn every person thus afflicted, of the irretrievable injury he inflicts on himself and his posterity by having treated such diseases with external remedies. By repelling these eruptions the germ of innumerable chronic diseases which afflict mankind are laid.

We have remarked before, that as Homœopathic cures are to be permanent, they cannot be performed in a day. The thoughtless physician can effect what he calls a cure over night of a cutaneous affection by the application of some ointment or salve, but the disease will return in a few days or weeks, and he may congratulate himself, if no worse consequences ensue from this forcible treatment. Self-willed man cannot cure diseases, as he so often in his presumption wishes by force. He cannot coerce nature, nor need he think to eradicate such affections by external means. The ancient physicians were more rational in this respect; they were very cautious in treating cutaneous diseases by external means, well knowing the fatal consequences which often followed.

The English and American, and some other nations appear to have a hereditary prediposition to empiricism, and the former have become even renowned as a nation of pills and potions. Even persons well acquainted with the true healing art, of whom better things might be expected, are seen sometimes resorting to such means. They do not perceive, that, by following this course, they are hindering the progress of Homœopathic medicine, which they so ardently wish. to greater certainty; for every trial of a quack's nostrum will deprive Homœopathy of a portion of experience, which would have carried her a step farther towards certainty, and thus have contributed to the wellfare of mankind. One of the chief causes of the flourishing of empiricism in all countries is the want of certainty in the established system; and nothing but a system of medicine, which gives more certainty to the healing art will root out this great evil permanently. The Homœopathic system will produce this salutary revolution; for unless the constitution of man should undergo a complete change, this system will be in future the established one, inasmuch as it is the only one founded on an incon trovertible law of nature.

In the selection of Homœopathic medicines we must not only regard their *specificity* to the affected organ, but above all the conditions under which the different painful sensations or affections are aggravated or changed. These must be particularly similar in the medicine and the disease. The student of Homœopathy will find, that a great number of medicines act on one and the same organ, and that if he disregards those more minute distinctions in the multifarious catalogue of symptoms, and the con-

ditions under which any organ of the system is affected, he will be unable to discover the specific alone applicable in the case before him. It will from this view appear evident, that those Homœopathic physicians, who consider the investigation of those finer shades of the disease an unnecessary labour, have by no means comprehended Homœopathy. That it is easier to mark down a few of the most characteristic symptoms than to investigate the disease in all its bearings, we know very well; but by pursuing this superficial course we may leave also many deeply-rooted affections uncured.

Attention should also be paid to the similarity of the *mental* symptoms peculiar to the disease and to the remedy. Of equal importance seems to us also the peculiar *habit of the body* and particularly the *complexion*. We have for some time in the selection of remedies, paid considerable attention to these points and discovered several specific remedial agents, which without regarding this peculiarity we would otherwise not have been able to find.

Medicines may be exhibited in chronic diseases every eight, four, three days, every day and even oftener with evident benefit, according to the individuality of the case.

After the application of a Homœopathic medicine, three things may take place.

1. The patient may feel in the first hours or days (according as the case may be) an aggravation of his disease, which is subsequently followed by an amelioration.

2. He may feel immediatedly in the first hours or days a diminution of his disease;—which, however, after a few days or weeks again relapses.

3. He may feel no effect whatever.

In the first and the second case, the medicine must be repeated at longer or shorter intervals, as long as an improvement is visible or until new symptoms appear, when it is changed for the next best specific medicine. This medicine may, however, again be usefully prescribed at a subsequent period. In the third case the medicine may have been given in too high a dilution; or may not be the right one; if the former is the case, a lower dilution must be resorted to, until reaction follows. Or if the latter, the [illegible] must be changed for one more appropriate. We shall find, however, that the dose has been too small. In [illegible] this want of effect is owing to an inappropriate selec[illegible]

The effect of Homœopathic medicines in many chronic diseases, often of many years standing is, if the specific medicine be found, truly astonishing, and the recovery most rapid. In other cases, particularly in deep-rooted affections, where the system is very much debilitated, it will agreably to their nature be slower; by perseverance, however, generally a favourable result is obtained in the end. We in fact consider no chronic disease, in which no important disorganizations have taken place, as absolutely incurable. Let only time be given it. The patient must have the conviction, that where Allœpathy, the old uncertain *quodlibet* method can effect something, Homœopathy, the positive specific method, can always do much more, because it is possessed, although yet in comparative infancy, of much more positive means, and it has cured innumerable cases, where the old system could do absolutely nothing.

Respecting the most appropriate doses of Homœopathic medicines, great diversities of opinion prevail among Homœopathic physicians. Considering experiments with them, chiefly on ourselves as the surest means of arriving at any thing like certainty in the operation of higher and lower dilutions as well as original tinctures and preparations, we have for several years past instituted extensive trials on ourselves and others. In these trials we have selected always such medicines, to which there was a predisposition in the body of the experimenter. We believe we have arrived at the following results. When the Tinctures and original preparations of Iodine, Barytes, Alumina, Caustic. Sulphur, Phosphor, Phoph. acid., Lycopod., Spir. Lign. Fossil. &c., were taken in large doses for some time, no effects were immediatedly afterwards experienced from the same medicines in their *diluted* state. After the lapse of several months, however, decided effects of these medicines, even in their highest dilution, were experienced and the effects of the 24th, 6th and 3th dilution of these medicines appeared to us equally de[illegible] and much more penetrating than [illegible] state and original prepa[illegible]rwards, increasing the D[illegible]hat these medicines wer[illegible]tures prepared [illegible] 20—30—40 [illegible] no means [illegible]fter the [illegible]d and

third day after taking it, that of the original preparation was often manifested in a few hours after its exhibition. All these experiments have led us to the conclusion, that it matters little what dilution or preparation is used for the cure of diseases; it being only necessary, that the virtue, the *active property* is extracted from the drug or developed by the Homœopathic manipulation, and the dose adapted to the temperament, constitution and degree of sensibility of the patient. An aggravation may just as often be produced, as experience has sufficiently shown from the highest as well as lowest dilution and concentrated medicines, provided the medicine is the specific one.

(To be continued.)

ON THE EXAMINATION OF THE SICK.

FROM DOCTOR C. HERING'S FRAGMENTS OF MEDICAL LECTURES.

The first step towards curing a given case, is its examination, on which Hahnemann's admirable instruction is as original, as it is short and practical. Whatever useful may have been taught hitherto on this subject, it is far surpassed by the method of examining and diagnosticating peculiar to the new school. We are aware, that this has been the topic of many a shallow witticism, but nevertheless it becomes very evident, what talents, knowledge and practice are required, to conduct an examination in the true Hahnemannean spirit; when we look on the reports of most of the old school physicians, even where they attempted to comply with the rules of Homœopathic accuracy; or when we read the descriptions, which even very intelligent persons give of their own cases, and young practitioners too find, that, with all their industry, they do not succeed as fast as they expected.

The following are the characteristics of this method of examination.

The patient must be attentively listened to.

Though one should think, that this would have been observed, as a matter of course, at all times; yet it was but rarely met with, after the time of Hippocrates, or looked upon as something superfluous. Like a judge who decides without having listened to the client, so are most physicians of our days. If

some made an exception in particular cases, it was generally owing to the difficulty in which they became involved. New or uncommon symptoms were at once declared as hypochondriacal or hysterical, so that it would be indifferent what the patient's imaginations consisted in. And would more accurate investigations, in reality, not have been so much labor lost, since the old school did not know how to turn the information, so obtained, to any advantage? Hence only the most palpable symptoms were noticed, in order to leave the greater range for idle speculations and hypothesis. There was none who considered the sick in all relations which presented deviations from the normal state, who would look on all the symptoms in connexion, as forming a unique phenomenon, an individual case, perhaps never to be met with again exactly in the same form; there was none, we say, who would grant to the patient the indefeisible right, of being heard respecting all his symptoms, as the only one who alone could know them best; none, whose observations were not marred by the dogmas of the schools.

To listen to the patient *without interrupting him*, is of great importance, because the image of the disease will become imperfect, if the physician hurries his questions too much. Others, however, who have not much to say, must be drawn into conversation, in order to elicit from them a description of their cases. By this method do we not only become acquainted with the peculiarities of the patient, but gain also a fine opportunity for observation, and many an important hint may be profited by, while the patient is engaged in social conversation on subjects quite foreign to his disease.

Hahnemann's second rule is *to write* the patient's statements down as far as practicable (according to the verbal statement), on the spot.

Though we may visit a number of patients and defer making memoranda until we have returned home, yet in vain would we attempt to retain the fresh, original impression with all its characteristic details. Even admitted that a very strong memory may retain all the verbal statements of different patients, yet we consider it a degree of perfection attained by but few, if by any, to fix the whole mind so intently on each individual case, as to recollect afterwards all observations and reflections made at the time of examination. And even then it would be necessary to take down notes for the use of the

future history of the case, so that we may in truth say: brilliant as the memory may be, it never can supply the place of the written memorandum.

The physician who takes no notes of his cases, resembles the artist, who professes to draw from recollection. Present to a painter, no matter how eminent he may be in his art, a new plant for careful inspection and let him draw it from memory. Though the picture in some cases may be tolerable, it never will be a perfect one. So with diseases. As the artist would idealise the flower he draws from recollection, so would the physician in describing even a case of ordinary occurrence. No artist would be able to pass through a green house and recollect some twenty or more plants so exactly, as to draw them satisfactorily to a botanist, and a physician could not do this either with his patients, even if they were inmates of a hospital. And who would pretend to remember all the details of chronic diseases, which remain perhaps for years under treatment? Hence it will not only be necessary to take notes, but to take them on the spot, except in cases of immediate danger, or during prevaling epidemics and in trifling indisposition. Some physicians, particularly converts from the old school, think it beneath their dignity, nay almost ridiculous, to appear at the bedside, pencil and paper in hand, but such had better write down at once a graceful prescription secundum artem, which, besides being less troublesome, is not as yet ridiculous.

The information which the physician obtained from the patient's own statement, is generally but a sketch, a mere outline which wants filling up. This is accomplished in the following manner. At every new symptom the physician breaks off the line, leaving some space between, particularly if the patient, who must not be interrupted, observes no order in relating his case. Now is the time for the physician to ask questions, in order to complete what may be wanting, as for instance in regard to the precise locality or peculiar *kind* of a sensation, in regard to time, motion, rest, or sleep, &c. It is difficult to make these inquiries without eliciting answers, perhaps not exactly in concordance with the real state of things. It is well enough for a judge, to put his own supposition into the prisoner's mouth, to induce him to confess; but this must be most carefully avoided by the physician, whose sole object can only be to obtain the patient's *own* description. Much may be learned in

this respect from Socrates, and Platon deserves as much study as Hippocrates. The young practitioner will never acquire this Socratic art of examining, and his statements will be falacious and imperfect, if he does not watch himself very scrupulously. Let him try to comply strictly with those rules in twenty or thirty cases, and he will soon discover how often he will be found at fault.

After having thus well characterised and completed the individual symptoms, we do the same with the whole picture of the disease, by enquiring after all organs and important functions, we ought at least to endeavour to acquire correct information respecting menstruation, and in males very important symptoms may become revealed by this inquiry, which were not even considered as morbid by the patient himself, as for instance: nocturnal urination, evicnary sediment, the nature of the stool, pain in the nape on awaking, local perspiration, &c. As every physician thus accustoms his patients to more accurate observation, so will Homœopathy by her progress instruct the public generally more thoroughly about health and disease, and much as pathology has gained in a direct manner by Hahnemann, physiology will not be less indebted to him indirectly.

The next step will be, to *classify* the raw, detached materials of the image of the disease. It will be advisable to the young practitioner to do this likewise at first in writing, until greater practice enables him to classify without such aid on reading over the memorandum. But even the more experienced practitioner will find it more atvandageous to pursue this plan of writing down in chronic eases, not only in the commencement, but also in the progress of the treatment, whenever important changes demand a new prescription. We restrict ourselves to a few observations in regard to simptomatic classification, as we intend to devote a separate chapter to this important subject. Whatever case may present itself to us, we look upon the whole individual as being in a morbid condition, and on all divications in the organs and functions as being connected with each other. But there is always some affected organ, or disturbed function, which forms the characteristic feature of the disease, the centre around which the symptoms of minor importance must become arranged. It would be bungling to look for and to be guided only by single symptoms. They must be classified according to their value or pathological importance, and the medicine must be

congruent, as far as possible, not only with the whole aggregate of them, but the individual symptoms of the medicine must also rank in the same manner, as those of the disease in question, that is to say: the characteristics of the malady, must also be characteristics amongst the symptoms of the medicine.

We conclude these fragmentary remarks by repeating once more the main points requsite for an effectual Homœopathic examination viz.: *to listen, to write, enquire and classify.*

THE UNCERTAINTY OF THE USUAL MODE OF PRACTICE.

I. Medici officio is probe defungitur qui si prodesse nequeat, non noceat.

Man is surrounded by dangers, his frail existence is incessantly threatened with a thousand destructive scourges, his organisation is continually subject to alteration which expose him to a multitude of diseases. It is natural then, that his first views be directed towards the means of preventing or remedying these evils, thence the origin of medicine which is lost in the night of time, and which is perhaps as ancient as the world. However, the first inhabitants of the earth could not be subject to so great a number of diseases, nor could those be so serious in their nature, as these are to which the present race of man is subject. In those early days, nature was in her full vigour consequently capable of much greater energy, and her reaction against morbid agents was more powerful. Our forefathers were not subject to so many delterious causes as we are, these causes have multiplied in an alarming manner through the depravation that the manners of the people have undergone. The ancient inhabitants of the earth, lived in a state of health both as regards the body and mind, and arrived at the most advanced age, as history attests.

By recurring to those happy centuries, we easily discover the reason why the poets have called this the golden age, it being an age in which man lived in a state of innocency, subjected only to the laws of nature. In the early period of medicine instinct supplied the place of medicine (Cabanis).

In man the powers of instinct are made manifest, when through the influence of civic life, his propensities have not been too materially impaired, and when the efforts of his imagination have

not served to mislead it from its natural path. In proportion as cultivation advanced, and a simple, nourishing diet was thought insufficient to sustain health, since liquors, spices, stimulating, life prolonging Elixirs (Elixir vitæ?) were introduced. Instinct would seem to lose much of its sagacity, diseases then became more complicated.

The ancient inhabitants of the earth only knew the simple aliments, and those without preparation, and this nourishment procured for them the greatest advantages. The simplicity of aliments and temperance are in fact, the abundant sources of health and life. It is sufficient, says Plutarch, to have the taste of true pleasure to be temperate. Regimen has the greatest influence not only upon the physical, but also upon the mental part of man.

Regimen has an influence upon the manners of a nation, and even upon the fate of empires.

The Hindostan nations, which according to the narration of voyagers, are the most sober and most temperate people, keep their annals from being sullied with those enormous crimes, which constitute the disgrace of the most of other nations.

We may venture to say that the manner of living influenced greatly upon the medical practice. The more the tables were heaped up with luxuries, the more medicine was wanting to arrest the progress of diseases. Apothecaries swelled to a considerable size. *Plures remediorum usus necat, quam vis et impetus morbi Stoll.*

The ingenious Formey says, the medical practice is generally suited in the different parts of the world, to the customs, habits, and manner of living of the country. The method of practice would therefore differ according to the character of the nation.

The Russians use shower baths to excess, in almost every disease.

The English stimulate a great deal, and consume pills by bushels.

The French purify their blood by leeches and tisanes, A la Sangrado, &c.

In the origin of the medical science, it was from instinct, alone, that a knowledge of the first and most simple of all medicines was derived.

They adapted their medicines to the instinctive demands of their patients.

The physician is the minister of nature,* was the golden rule by which Hippocrates was guided. He acknowledged nature to be the physician. From a profound adoration of nature, he expected all from its own sanative powers, this appears like Prof. Werber says in accordance with the laws of development of the human race. All physicians who practised medicine in the spirit of Hippocrates adopted what is called the expectative method, leaving nature in diseases to its own exertion, they understood the secret to do much, we must do little.

This is the true medicine of nature, says Stahl, which restores so many men, without the aid, advice, or interposition of a physician, as Hippocrates has long since mentioned.

This is the true method, the great Autocrat, which we ought to consider, and which of its own will evade and conquer many difficult and dangerous diseases.†

Stahl considers disease in but too many cases as a *crisis* which nature needs, especially in the epochs of evolution to develope the system. He admonishes physicians most particularly to be cautious, with the administration of medicines, at these critical movements of life, not to mistake nature's efforts, when she creates diseased symptoms. To check nature roughly by medicine, would only retard the progress of evolution, and hurry the patient to an untimely grave.

Est ut in motu sanissimi corporis, sic et in aegrotante hominis machina sublimis quidam et sacer ordo quo natura vel in salutis restituendæ opere procedit vel a vi morbi obruitur ipsa. (*J. P. Frank.*)

Against practitioners, who encroach blindly into the laws of nature, with the "double-edged sword of powerfel remedies," like Jahn says, Stahl is all fury, and he exclaims: What does a blind and impudent quack then disgrace the science by his foolish and daring attempts? His trade consists in vomiting, purging, sweating, and bleeding. He prepares a dangerous and formidable pell-

* Medicus est minister naturæ.

† Hæc est vera illa medicina naturæ, qua sine medico externo consilio et auxilio multos homines sanari jam pridem monuit Hippocrates. Hæc est methodus illa autokratikæ summæ dignitatis, ad considerationem atque pensitationem solertissimam adhibendam, qua homines e gravissimis etiam quibulibet morbis, sponte naturæ ut loquuntur mortis periculum evadunt et ad sanitatem revertuntur. (Stahl.)

Hæc simplex veritas, quod homo suum habeat medicum, quod natura sit morborum medicatrix, atque congruas plerumque vias eligat, plus sane valet et in curandis morbis plus spei alit, quam splendissimus artis nostræ apparatus. (Junker.)

mell of imperious drugs, prescribes remedy on remedy,guesses on guesses, and not on correct information, takes his chance for luck, and is at a loss what to do. Sometimes Divine Providence will assist nature, and cure in spite of his fool-hardiness, and the misapplied drugs. He then puts on his peacock feathers, and ascribes to himself the success which results from his patient's strong constitution.

Jahn says: As an idiot at the clock turns on, and only ends in stopping the machine; so rude practitioners continue working at the machinery of the Creator, until through their ignorance of the laws of nature, all further operation is suddenly suspended.

Der Affe rückt und dreht
bis das Uerchen stille steht.

If physicians had continued in the spirit of Hippocrates, to watch, to observe, to copy nature, without creating imaginary theories, philosophical explanations* which in an experimental science are calculated only to throw confusion into practice, medicine would not have lagged behind other sciences.

A short sketch of theory and practice in medicine will suffice to justify my assertion. Galen ascribes the fever heat to the gall, Erasistratus derives the causes of human maladies from a disturbance of the (pneuma) air in the arteries by an accumulation of blood. Gilbert so accurately described the varieties of the mucous, the sweet, sour, tart, bitter, saline, as causes of disease, that one might almost believe he had annalized them chemically. Paracelsus deduces the origin of diseases from differences in the salts, sulphur and mercury. The principal founder of the humoral pathologie Sylvius de le Boe assumes diseases to be founded on a changed and acrid condition of the fluids, and the thoughtful Sydenham was so much prepossessed with de le Boe's opinion, that he minutely described the varieties of the corrupted fluids, without being able to assign a probable cause for his hpyothetical assertion. Fernelius very paradoxically asserted that the diseases must be sought for in the solids, and that the fluids ought not to be considered as belonging to the body. Cullen, Brown explained diseases as being the consequence of a dynamic aberation of the nervous system.

* Ich kann mir kein betrübteres Taglöhnergeschäft denken, als eine Anwendung abstracter Principien auf eine bereits vorhandene empirische Wissenschaft.
Schelling's Ideen zu einer Philosophie der Natur.

Rasori, Brera, Borda, Tomassini founded the system of contrastimulus, the theory is with very little difference, similar to the system of Brown.

Broussais establishes his theory on irritatinn of the mucous membranes.

Fashion, says Formey, this tyrannical power of a sublunar world, keeps its sway also in practical medicine.

There is no science so inconsistent, so variable than medicine, we see not only each century, the old building torn down, and a new one erected, but almost every ten or five years new theories fabricated, and new remedies introduced, and the old cure-all praised-ones forgotten, banished.

What is very odd, that each country almost followed a similar course.

Medicine has no sound foundation. Every Physician fosters his own ideas his own favourite remedies, and changes it according to circumstances.

The difference of theories, their constant change, the rage of imitation, sufficiently accounts for such phenomena.

Our predecessors were governed by the belief in acids and poisons, as originating diseases, and they therefore, even in mere trifling complaints, employed the so called Allexipharmaca antipoisonous remedies.

The Humoral pathology and its adherents of the gastric school, sought the material origin of all complaints, that is the origin in relation to matter principally in constipation of the mesentery. Every cure commenced and ended with an emetic, every chronic disease was treated with dissolving drastic and expectorating remedies. To prevent accumulations, preparations were made as early as spring, by prescribing regular weekly courses of medicine, principally bitter extracts of Extr. Taraxaci—graminis—centauri minus, millefolium. The public called them blood-purifying remedies.

The defenders of the acrimonial school resorted to copious blood-lettings, and disfigured the neck and thighs with the application of cupping glasses, and prescribed decoctions, and purifying remedies. The so called species lignorum, composed of Sassafras, Sassaparilla, lignum guaiaci, &c.

The system of Brown upset the whole of the brittle edifice of old medicine, and supplied its place with but few firm columns and a great deal of untenable theory According to his doctrine,

diseases were a consequence of astheny (a defect of excitability of the nerves), and were treated with stimulants, so that I may well assert, that many patients departed this life during a medical intoxication. No receipt could be seen without it contained an item of opium. If a senior practitioner was called in for consultation, the junior attending physician or surgeon gave him the preliminary assurance, that he had neither bled, not purged his patient, nor prescribed any emetic so as not to compromise himself in the event of an unfavourable issue. The founder of the theory of excitability died himself of Appolexy, having the previous evening taken a strong dose of opium.

The advocates for guarding the purity of the skin regarded frequent libations as a great preservative and restorative, and cited the example of the Greeks, Romans and Egyptians. They insisted that it opened the pores, assisted perspiration, and exercised a beneficial influence upon the chief organs. But the spring cures at home are now out of fashion. and have of late yielded to a taste for journeys to the springs. Searce is the first warm zephyr felt in our northern clime, when a legion of wealthy patients, not unlike the returning swallows start for the springs to offer their sacrifices to the healing Naiads. The stream of the hypochondriacs, palsied, hepatics, lame, consumptive and epileptic, is extending itself to every watering place and saline sulphur, iron and sea baths, are in turn resorted to. To such an excursion, and its presumed salutary effects, the patient is constantly advised and referred during the winter. The hope of a decisive cure thus held out is to encourage and console him. Should the experiment be unsuccessful, he is told on his return, that the good is to be expected, he will feel its benefit by and by.

Does that also fail, then the disease is declared to be so firmly rooted and so obstinate, that a course of visits to watering places for several seasons is recommended, and if his pecuniary circumstances will allow it, the patient is told to pass the winters in a southern region.

—— Uti non
compositus melius cum Bitho Bacchius: in jus
Acres procurrunt.

Hor. Sat. vjj. Libr. 1. 19.

Who shall decide when doctors disagree,
And soundest casuists doubt, like you and me?

Pope.

The consumptive, says the learned Formey, were formerly treated with balms, bark and gums, and now none of these unfortunates are sent to the grave, without carrying along with them, a sufficient quantity of Icelands moss, opium, Foxglove, prussic acid!?* and asse's milk.

In fever and ague the patient had formerly to take copious draughts of purgatives. He had first to suffer at least nine attacks of the disease before bark or quinine was applied at present the object is to suppress the fever as soon as possible, from which cause the greatest injury sometimes result.

Acute cutaneous diseases, especially scarlet fever, used to be treated with sudorifics, and the patient was kept constantly warm, and confined to his bed for six weeks. At present he is kept rather too airy, in consequence of which often of ill treatment, the eruption is suddenly suppressed, and the result is in most cases fatal. Prof. Dunglison presoribes purgatives in the commencement of acute cutaneous diseases?!—

Formerly a person attacked by typhus and nervous fevers, was immediately subjected to a course of medicine, consisting of *serpentaria, Camphor, Musk, Wine,* and was kept warm. The recent systems prescribe *bleeding, leeching,* cold bath and Calomel.

In older times the insane were treated with powerful doses of Emetics, Camphor, *Scammoneum,* at present they are submitted to a kind of penal code.

We thus see from antiquity to the present generation a constant wavering, a blind groping in the field of human maladies, and we may exclaim with Bagliv on the same subject:

Multa nimium rationi tribuunt, nihil experientia, multa contra faciunt, utrique æqualiter peccant, unde tot inter medicos contentiones tot inter theoriam et praxin dissidia.

* It appears the fate says the celebrated Jahn, that the modern much recommended remedies would not stand the test Their fame unlike the ancient falls almost as quick as it once arose.

I would but mention the most distinguished as: *Gold! Kadmium, proto and deuto joduret. Hydrargyri Oleum crotonis* and many Alcaloides.

What practitioner who means well with his patient would not give the ancient established ones the preference.

On an equal footing we may place the bitter extract of Nux vomica, first recommended in paralysis by Magendie, and afterwards its merits highly extolled by Edwards, Chauffart, Baxter, Gendrin, Cazenave, but I must candidly confess after having tried it in many cases of paralysis, that I regretted much the experiment, as the result was not only unsuccessful but in most cases fatal.

They follow too much their abstract reasoning, and care too little for experience, they sin against both, there is therefore an internal dispute between the physicians, and too little concert between theory and practice.

It is lamentable, says *Krueger Hansen*, that physicians whose main object it should be to watch and assist nature in its efforts, (*medicus est minister naturæ*) could it reconcile to their minds, to use means as energetic, to subdue human maladies, as bleeding, Calomel, &c.

A simple remedy taken occasionally, by a healthy person, would soon convince them of its injurious impressions. Habit alone tolerates its frequent application.

Physicians most varying in the choice of active remedies, have gained great confidence, with the public. They have the name of being very attentive; such men ought to be shunned rather like a poison, because they play with the life of man quit or doubled.

The more active the disease, the more susceptibility there is for inimical impression, therefore, little of powerful drugs is wanting, to subdue such maladies. A deviation from this rule (which is the most current) has destroyed, and will hurry thousands to an untimely grave.

In case of a surgical operation a great stir is made, before a decided step is taken. I consider the use of medicines not less important.

There are instances enough that they have proved fatal instantanously.

It is a prevailing opinion, the quicker the disease is removed, the better, however, in too many instances, the malady is not cured, but suppressed only. Affections that primarily make their appearance upon the skin, are by the same law transferred to internal organs, and by a rapid and sudden retrocession, in a short time prove fatal. (See Ticknors medical philosophy.)

What mother, or what nurse, has not seen children suddenly die from an affection of the lungs or of the brain, caused by a sudden disappearance, through the use of external ointment, of some seemingly trifling cutaneous eruption?

Many, if not a large majority, of the diseases of the skin, owe their origin, to some derangement of the digestive organs; and while this cause continues to operate, the disease is absolutely invincible by any safe medical treatment. They who know nothing, fear nothing, and an impudent practitioner who knows

not the danger which attends his practice, fears not to encounter it. Most of the remedies that are generally employed in eruptive diseases, as sulphuric *ointment*, zinc *ointment*, lead *ointment*, mercurial *ointment*, and a great many more, remove rather than cure, repel rather than eradicate, or in common parlance, *strike the complaint in*. Such a result is most easily obtained; and from the similarity of structure of the internal mucous membranes to that of the skin, eruptive diseases have almost as great an affinity for the one as the other. When diseases are rudely repelled from the surface of the body, there is no certainty what part they may choose for their location; but one thing is certain, that on the skin they are comparitively free from danger, and that after they have attacked an internal organ, life is in jeopardy.

The ill effects of a sudden disappearence of disease from the skin, show themselves at different times, from a few minutes, to days or weeks. Such variations depend much on the organ which the disease has attacked; if, for instance it be the lungs, there will be at first, but a slight cough, gradually increasing, till it terminates in consumption; or it may speedily produce a bleeding from the lungs, and run its course much sooner. Again it may attack the stomach or bowels, producing derangement of digestion, diarrhœa, and the various forms of disease to which those organs are liable, or it may seize upon the brain producing various shades of insanity, or doing its work much more speedily by terminating in apoplexy, or inflammation.

Affections of the skin become chronic, and in proportion to the length of the time they may have continued, is their removal rendered both more difficult and dangerous. So habituated to their presence does the system become, that it is often inexpedient and hazardous to attempt a cure; lest a harmless, though troublesome complaint, be converted into one of a most alarming aspect.

Diseases of this character should be viewed through another medium. While located on the skin, they in fact serve to ward off other and dangerous diseases from internal organs—they serve as a quarantine for the system, a certificate, or endorsement of health; they are often a substitute for that which would destroy life. Physicians of eminence often regard eruptions in children as a warrant for health,—they consider them

as enjoying a better chance to arrive at maturity than those whose skin is smooth. Cutaneous eruptions seem to serve as a rallying point for disease; for when a cause, sufficient to destroy the balance of health, is applied there is often only an aggravation of the complaint.

Any physician, of no more than ordinary practice, must have seen many cases of obstinate and severe disease consequent upon repelled eruption, and he who has experienced it, knows full well, how to appreciate the difficulty of recalling these affections to their original location.

And indeed there is no hazard in saying, that the danger and obstinacy of a disease, consequent upon a retrocession of a cutaneous affection is increased many fold.

An interesting child of eighteen months old, had an eruption on the face and behind the ears, as is very common among children of that age; its mother had importuned the physician to cure it, and he very wisely, advised her to be patient, telling her that the change from the hot to the cold season would probably accomplish what she desired. The mother, however, became impatient, she thought the child's appearence was rendered unpleasant, and less interesting, although its health continued perfectly unimpaired. Contrary to the advice that she had repeatedly received from her physician, and being fully warned of the danger, she procured an ointment with which she succeeded, to her entire satisfaction, in healing the sores. Scarcely a single day had been allowed for self-congratulation before the child was seized with convulsions, which proved fatal in a few hours.

A lady had for several successive winters been, afflicted with what is called *salt rheum*. It always appeared on the hands, at the commencement of cold weather, and never took its departure till the warm season in the spring. It was always troublesome from its peculiar itching, burning, and smarting sensations that accompanied, she applied some external remedy; that which had been most earnestly desired was at length obtained, and the lady thought she had fairly extinguished her hateful and disagreeable tormentor, Her joy, however, was but short lived, in less than twenty-four hours she was attacked with violent pain of the head, pain in the side, with a chill, the precursor of a raging fever. For a few days, this patient seemed in imminent danger of dying from inflammation of the brain, then suddenly, the disease left the head and attacked the lungs. There now occured an obstinate

and troublesome cough, which was sometimes for hours almost incessant, and to this was superadded all the prominent and characteristic symptoms of pulmonary consumption. This state continued for two or three days when all disease at once vanished from the lungs, and seized upon the bowels, here for a few days it played off its vagaries, and after threatening to terminate the existance of the patient, sought another domicile in the glands of the neck. Here it finally stayed and after a sepparation of the glands, and discharge of matter from the throat internally, and from the neck externally during three weeks, the patient began to recover ?!—and in just two month after the application of the remedy to the hands, and after having her life despaired of for weeks in succession, she was in a condition to leave her room. It must not be supposed, says Dr. Ticknor, that no effort was made in this case to recall the *salt rheum* to the hands, for every thing was done that skill?! and medical science could do? but attempts were unavailing,—.—.!

N.B. This case is a trite one, yet with all the drugs, Allœopathy could not succeed to bring back the eruption to the skin. We are convinced our noble science *Homœopathy* would have better accomplished its task.—

A gentleman, somewhat advanced in life, had been for many years, troubled with an eruption on one of his lower limbs, he made no complaint of this, only, that it took to much of his time to scratch, and this in fact ought not to have been regarded as much of an evil, since he was in independent circumstances, and could well afford the time. He had been rather urgent to have it cured, he applied external remedies, after the retrocession of the eruption. Numbness, and a prickling sensation were first experienced in the foot of one side—then a weakness and loss of control over the foot when walking and subsequently voluntary motion was lost—the one half of the body became paralytic, and the unfortunate man on the fifth day of being unwell died of appolexy.

Go readers, gentle, meek and simple,
If you have wart, or corn or pimple,
To Quack infallible apply.
Here's room enough for you to lie,
His skill triumphant still prevails,
For death's a cure that never fails.

Dans tous les temps on a leve des impots sur la credulite humaine et ce ne sont pas ceux qui rapportent le moins.

(*Pigault—Lebrun.*)

We have cited a number of cases to show the danger of suppressing (what is generally called curing) diseases. Doctor Ticknor charges quacks expecially of being guilty of such actions. but what other method, we would ask, pursue the practitioners of the old school? does not daily experience teach us, that regular and irregular practitioners make use of the same weapons, they possess no other means, to attack those maladies.

If we look into the works of the most able Practitioners, even of the most modern, like Rayer, Bateman, Cazenave and Schedel, &c., we find the most active ointments, the contents of which are mercury, lead, zinc, arsenic, &c., prescribed. A few examples may follow which I have extracted from *Rayer*, the most standard work on diseases of the skin.

Rp. Slaked quick-lime . . . . aa.
Sub carbonate of Soda . . aa. Dr. I.
Watery extract of opium . . . Gr. XV.
Lard . . . . . Dr. II.
Essence of Bergamot . . . . Gut. X.

Prescribed in prurigo.

Rp. Lard.
Mercury equal parts by weight.
Rub till the mercury is extinguished.

Rp. of Proto chloride of mercury (Calomel).
Calomel . . . . Dr. I.
Lard . . . . . Unc. I.

Used in various pustular and squammous inflammation.

Rp. Cyanuret of mercury . . . Dr. II.
Lard . . . . . Unc. I.
Essence of Bergamot . . . Gut. X.

Used in chronic Eczema in quantities of half a Dr. gradually increased.

Similar prescriptions all medical codes contain.
The discoverer of Homœopathy exclaims with indignation.

They (the Physicians) imagine when they make use of their repellent remedies, and dry up old ulcers in the legs by adstringents, oxides of lead, copper and zinc, accompanied, it is true, with purgatives, which only weaken, without diminishing the fundamental evil; when they destroy excrescences locally, drive back itch from the skin by sulphur ointment, lead, mercury, or zinc and finally when they cure inflammation of the eyes, with solutions of lead or zinc, and drive away pain from the limbs by the use of opodeldoc, volatile liniment, or fumigations of cinnabar and amber. In all such cases, they think they have annihilated the evil, triumphed over the disease, and performed a rational treatment directed against the cause. *But mark what follows.* New forms of diseases, which infallibly manifest themselves sooner or later and which, when they appear, are taken for fresh maladies, being always worse than the primitive affections. (*Hahnemann.*)

Example is more forcible than precept.

J. G. Rosenstein, M. D.

In the Oct. Number of Dr. Johnson's Medico Chirurgical Review and Journal of Practical Medicine, we were struck with the following case, extracted from the Doublin Journal, July 1838.

Beneficial effects of Belladonna in a case of Puerperal mania.

BY

DAVID H. SCOTT, M. D.

A lady, the mother of four children, was confined of her last in April of the past year. Since her childhood she had been constitutionally nervous, and partaking of an hereditary excitability. About two months previously to the full period of gestation, she began to express a conviction that she should not recover, and, in spite of all persuasions, this increased. But her labour was favourable and she went on well until the evening of the seventh day, when her husband found her sitting up in bed, reciting with astonishing rapidity and accuracy several parts of scripture, and hymns, many of which she had learned in her childhood, and which had been apparently forgotten by her, as she was never, on any occassion before, known to repeat them, neither could she when requested do so. She was quite unmanageable, scarcely recognized any person at her bedside, answered incoherently the questions proposed, dwelt constantly on the idea of death, for which she fancied she had been so actively preparing, and though her medical attendant was instantly on the spot, it was with much difficulty he was able to apply his measures. Active purging had a beneficial (!) effect, it relieved the urgency of the symptoms. At this time she was attacked with mammary abscess, and had been prohibited nursing the child. Her nights were now sleepless; opium was largely administered to give repose. She became abstracted and shunned all society; a melancholy, with occassional paroxysms of high excitement, seized her mind; to those whom she dearest loved she showed the strongest dislike, and abandoned herself to despair and to utter ruin, an object unworthy of the compassion of her Creator. Leeches, occassional purgatives, change of scene and air, regulation of the secretions, which were greatly vitiated, the shower bath, were employed with partial and indifferent benefit- But at the end of October there was an evident change, the intervals of active excitement became longer and her manner more rational; she began to feel a pleasure in occasional conversation and the cautious introduction of visitors seemed to draw her attention to other objects than the delusions which haunted her. Dr. Scott now inserted a seton in the nape of the neck. It only rendered her unmanageable and was withdrawn. *Thinking that direct action on the nervous system might be serviceable, Dr. Scott combined with perseverance in the use of purgatives* (!!), *a pill composed of half a grain of extract of belladonna to be taken every night.*

The effect of this treatment was highly satisfactory, her nights were visited with refreshing sleep, her skin, which had been parched from the onset of the illness up to this period, became moist, symptom after symptom improved and at the end of six weeks, her eye lost its *vacuity*, her countenance wore a contented and intelligent expression, her mind was calm, collected, and happy, and her feelings so altered, when contrasted, as she expressed it with her past wretched and dismal state. The belladonna was employed up to the period of her permanent improvement, which was toward the end of December, when, to use the language of the husband, "she was as well as she had ever been during her life."

By comparing the symptoms of the above disease with the pathogenetic effects of *Belladonna*, any one acquainted with the subject must be convineed, that the cure in this case is strictly Homœopathic and every Homœopathic physician can furnish cases of the specific effect of *Belladonna* in *Puerperal Mania.* But if the belladonna had been applied in a smaller dose at the commencement of the disease, and if the system had not most unnecessarily been debilitated previously by leeches, opium, purgatives and setons, a cure might have been effected in *six days* instead of *six weeks.* That the author of this cure should not be aware of its being a strictly Homœopathic one, we can hardly believe, as, although the dose of the medicine was too large, the cure was nevertheless performed by means of a medicine selected according to the similarity of the symptoms. But why does he not mention with one word the well known specific effect of belladonna in this disease? Is he afraid to mention that dread word "Homœopathy?" We are almost inclined to suppose this is the case.—A distinguished writer lately could only get an insertion into another European Journal of some cures, effected by Homœopathic treatment by avoiding the term "Homœopathy" altogether, and by denominating his strictly Homœopathic cures *"cures by specific medicines.* (!!)" *d.*

Extract from Dr. Wm. Channing's Discourse on the Reformation of Medical Science, delivered before the "New York Physicians' Society."

It is with pleasure we direct the attention of our readers to Dr. Channing's eloquent and learned discourse, and regret that we can only give a few extracts, which, however, will be sufficient, to show the author as a distinguished advocate of the cause of Homœopathy:

"Man is a unit;—and however subservient the functions of the body to the nobler attributes of the soul, it is not to be contested that, while united, they are subject to one harmonious code of laws governing alike the psychological, the physiological, and the pathological, in every condition in which life is exhibited. "What God has joined together, let not man put asunder!" is a command, the violation of which, in reference to the phenomena of man's nature, has been visited with consequences the most disastrous. To its influence on medicine may we not trace, in a great measure, the melancholy condition of our art already referred to? Have we not as a profession, hitherto misapprehended the magnitude of the mission with which we have been intrusted? Instead of embracing in its exalted aims the laws of the whole man, we have been insensible of our high prerogative. Surrendering to others the study of his nobler nature, we have contented ourselves with his physical, as if forgetful that we are almost daily called to "administer to a mind diseased."

Moreover, to whom have we thus tamely surrendered this noblest portion of our legitimate domain? To metaphysical and ethical inquirers, who, ignorant of human organization and its physiological functions, and still more, of the instructive phenomena, psychological and corporeal, occuring under the influence of disease, have pursued their speculations almost in darkness. Destitute of these important guides, they could hardly, by any possibility, have discovered for us the laws of moral and intellectual man. On the other hand, confining our investigations to mere physical phenomena, we have attempted in vain to establish the foundations of scientific medicine upon the limited views disclosed by anatomy and physiology; the first relating to corporeal structure, and the last, as an eminent physiologist defines it, "restricted to that branch of science which treats of the functions of the living animal body, and of the powers by which those functions are exercised," as "the purely intellectual do not properly fall within the province of the physiologist."

And what have been the positive consequences of this unnatural severance of phenomena which Nature has indissolubly united? The unavoidable consequences of false induction. While on the one hand, the investigations of the physiologist, shut out from the light which psychological phenomena had shed around him, could not but too frequently generate the dismal forms of Materialism; on the other, those of the psychologist, alike unilluminated, have been as naturally prolific of the wildest dreams of Idealism; man has

been arrayed against man with the fanatical virulence of futile controversy, the claims of Inductive Philosophy have been forgotten, and the laws of life's phenomena, so important to the cause of social progress, so essential to scientific medicine, are yet unrevealed.

And what, forsooth, is the argument usually advanced to deter us from this vital inquiry? "The facts of our science," said the learned professor of *materia medica* of the University of Pennsylvania, in a recent lecture to his class, "are yet too limited to enable us to form a general theory of medicine upon the only true foundation—that of strict induction."—What had been the feelings of Bacon could he have anticipated this lamentable confession, from such a source, more than two hundred years after his departure!—"How is it possible," continued the professor, "for us to draw from our knowledge of the human system, a doctrine explanatory of all its morbid actions, when we are almost wholly in the dark as to the nervous functions, and, of the principle of life itself, know scarcely more than its existence? We might as well attempt to form an accurate map of a country from a knowledge of a few prominent points, while ignorant alike of its boundaries and its interior. Yet, so presumptuous is man, that he frequently undertakes the impossible task. With intellectual powers, which, in comparison with the object, are infinitely feeble, he strives to penetrate the secret counsels of Almighty wisdom."—How is it possible, we would ask this able professor, that we prescribe scientifically to our patients, if, as he avows, "we are almost wholly in the dark as to the nervous functions?" especially, as he well knows that every medicine must exert its peculiar action on these functions, to modify any animal functions whatever. And why are we thus "in the dark" as to the functions of the nervous system; but because the psychological phenomena—phenomena associated with this system only, and the most strikingly demonstrative of its functions—have been irrationally excluded from the studies of the physiologist?

But, what is the substance of the argument so imposingly presented by one of the distinguished teachers of our country? Stripped of its subtlety it is simply this: because life's *essence* is inscrutable, therefore its laws are "past finding out;" and hence, it is adroitly inferred, that he who "undertakes the impossible task," would fain "penetrate the secret counsels of Almighty wisdom."—Was such the reasoning of Newton? When in the fleeting hues of the "bow of promise" he read the laws of vision, had the subtle essence of light submitted to his grasp? Or, when he spanned the heavens, and traced through limitless space the predestined march of a universe, had he invoked the mysterious essence of gravitation to wing him for his empyrean flight?—Was the essence of the electric spark determined, when the genius of our Franklin disarmed the bolt of heaven?—Or the essence of the magnet discovered, before commerce could explore unmeasured oceans and found new empires for Liberty?—Experimental philosophy, aware that names and forms, archetypes and essences, phantasmata and substrata, are inherent prerogatives of Aristotelian visionaries, devotes herself exclusively to the study of phenomena and the laws which they obey; and but for the almost universal neglect in medicine, of this obvious truth, the laws of life's phenomena had been long since scientifically established."

"We would call attention to the fact, universal in animated nature, that Exercise, within normal or prescribed limits, is absolutely indispensable to the development and vigor of each and every function of the animal economy; and though the limits prescribed are not clearly defined, they are undoubtedly transcended whenever, by reason of exercise, the vigor of any function, after normal rest, continues impaired. In this fundamental truth, that exercise is Nature's indispensable agent in her work of developing and confirming the vital forces—an agent, within conservative limits, uniformly enfeebling every function or force of animal life—in this universal truth, we apprehend, lies the germ of a great principle, which, with your indulgence, it shall now be our province, in a measure, to unfold.

And first, let us inquire, what does the very idea of exercise in any animal function, imply? Can such exercise be imposed but through labor to be performed, difficulties or obstacles to be overcome, resistance or opposition to the accomplishment of the purpose for which the function was designed? If not, and if exercise be essential, is it not incontrovertible, that to these adverse or opposing forces, every function is alike indebted for its earliest, for its latest, for its every manifestation of existence? Illustrations of this position, repeated on every page of animal history, might be multiplied almost without limitation. A few only can here be introduced.

1. In the development of every muscular power of the animal frame, the indispensable agency of opposing forces is too clearly evinced to admit of a cavil. Had the child ever learned to walk, or the bird to fly, if the force of gravity had not lent its aid to the evolution of these powers?—powers suddenly annulled, by either the entire suspension or the excessive accumulation of this force. The Herculean strength incidental to athletic pursuits, points to the same principle. And among the less palpable exhibitions of muscular energy, it can hardly be doubted, that even in the earliest of all discernible functions of animal life, the embryo heart, a mere *punctum saliens*, had never acquired vigor for the necessities of subsequent existence, had not its incipient pulsations encountered the resistance of opposing forces.

2. If we turn to functions more occult, they speak the same language. Could the eye, admirably adapted, as it is, to fulfil the design of its beautiful mechanism, ever be taught the secret of its latent powers, or when taught, retain it, deprived of the stimulus of its appropriate element?—an element too, the intensity of whose flash can paralyze these powers for ever. Is the ear, exquisitely organized as it is, less dependent for a knowledge of its uses, on the incitement of a force equally fitted to destroy? And in the unfolding and perfecting of the other senses, is not this principle in each reiterated? Moreover, by what means are the vital forces fortified against the extremes of the torrid and frigid zones, the effluvia of the marsh, and the parching winds of the desert? How are they unscathed amid "the pestilence walking in darkness?" How confront the noon-day destroyer whose touch is death? Is it not by acclimating, inuring, or confirming these forces, by *gradual* exposure to agents otherwise destructive?

3. The psychological history of man enforces the same lesson. From the period at which its phenomena first came under observation, (till which,

hereditary, organic and other unappreciable influences have borne sway,) up to the period of maturity, every intellectual faculty, every moral sentiment, every passion of his nature, is expressed more or less vividly, in the ratio of its active exercise, the instrument of forces opposing within established limits. Is the world often astonished by a display of transcendant talent, in men, the brightness of whose horizon adversity has never shaded? How many of the master spirits who have filled a place in the history of mind, have been born in obscrurity and fought their way to distinction, through difficulties which nothing but intellect animated by opposition, could have overcome!—Where are seen the moral sentiments triumphing in life's great contest? Where are the principles of obligation—of justice, benevolence and truth—found in their power? Where, but among those who have felt the full force of temptation? In what scenes have the great virtues always sought a congenial soil? Have they ever attained a fruitful maturity, ever seen the light even, unless planted and nurtured amid trial and conflict?—And as for the passions, who does not know that opposition is their natural aliment? Who does not know that, deprived of this, like the ambition of the conqueror of one world pining for another, they prey upon the bosoms which warmed them into life? Does not Anger glow with more vivid intensity at every breath of hostility? And is not Pride constantly inflated by contesting rivalry? Had the miser's gold ever been the idol of his soul, but for the toils, privations and perils of its accumulation? or the temple of fame roused an aspiration, but for the struggle to gain its giddy height? In fine, is not the poet's thought almost a truism, that

> "Love, all-defying Love, who sees
> No charm in trophies won with ease,
> Hath ever held that pearl the best,
> He finds beneath the stormiest water."

Truly, through collision alone, is passion's spark elicited; and the blast which might extinguish, fans it into a flame. But we cannot now extend our illustrations.

The data which have been adduced, it is believed, establish the position that—Whenever the exigencies of the animal economy demand a more energetic activity of special functions or forces, Nature, (not less skilful in choosing her means than in graduating their power to the vigor of constitutional reaction,) invariably employs, within limits normally conservative, agents specifically adverse to the functions or forces requiring her aid.

It follows, that of the myriads of active agents by which animal life is invested, none is essentially inimical; for none proves hostile but through an excessive exhibition of its power; none is injurious, but in transcending the limits beyond which the vital forces necessarily succumb—the normal limits of conservative reaction. An inference fraught with instruction, pointing as it does to important practical bearings of the great law of animal existence which Nature has so unequivocally proclaimed—

CONTRARIA CONTRARIIS CORROBORANTUR.

Practitioners of the healing art, who, in their proper vocation, are but the ministers of Nature, recognise her supremacy in every medical school having claims to Inductive Philosophy. Hence, by all such schools, however, antagonistic their theories, it is a truth admitted, that in every case of disease, the legitimate aim of medication is, to render efficient aid to the *vis conservatrix naturæ*—either by obviating difficulties, or by reinforcing its sanitary efforts. For, on the vital forces, whatever the means resorted to, must we ultimately rely for the restoration of health.

In the presence of disease, therefore, the philosophical physician, rising above the region where scholastic controversies have for ages distracted the medical world, is disturbed with no speculations on its inscrutable nature and essence; but, rejecting all pathological hypotheses which, like the philosopher's stone and the elixir-vitæ of chemistry, have been the paralyzing incubus of medical science, he rests solely on demonstrable facts. Confining his attention strictly to appreciable phenomena and their inductive classification, as the only legitimate work of medical phylosophy, he discerns, in these thus classified, the characteristic features of individual cases—and in each case respectively, that certain functions or forces of the living economy are specially invaded, requiring the aid of medicinal agents.

With a mind thus singly devoted to his purpose, his attention is first directed to the offending cause which excited and may continue the disturbance. This removed, he turns confidingly to the Laws of Life—the formulæ under which vital phenomena, in their diversified relations, are scientifically disposed—as the only competent authority for the solution of a problem, in which, life and its relations alone are concerned. And if among these laws. he find recorded, in characters not to be mistaken, *Contraria contrariis corroborantur*—obedient to its mandate, he selects, as the means of invigorating their reaction, on agent specifically adverse to the yielding functions or forces. In other words, he prescribes the medicine which, acting pathogenetically upon on organism in health, affects in a similar manner the special functions or forces suffering under the attack. That is to say, he administers an agent which, producing in the healthy organism morbid phenomena similar to those manifest in the patient, is chosen in conformity with the well known principle, "*Similia similibus curantur.*"

The energy of the agent thus selected, primarily active upon functions yielding to invasion, and hence less able to resist it, may so much the more readily transcend "the limits beyond which the vital forces necessarily succumb." And inasmuch as every agent, like exercise, is "an agent, within conservative limits, uniformly invigorating, and beyond these limits, as uniformly enfeebling every function or force of animal life" in its sphere of activity, and as the sole object of a medicinal agent so selected, is to invigorate yielding functions or forces, it follows, that only within these limits should the powers of such agent be exhibited—limits which, like those of exercise, may be competently determined by experience alone."

"Homœopathy is not a Surgical science. It has never pretended with its minute doses, though it would seem to be demanded of it, to amputate a limb, to reduce a dislocation, to extract an aching tooth or a piercing thorn, to

remove a deadly draught from the stomach, or any other local irritant from the organism affecting it chemically or mechanically; though it has done more, it has often superseded the necessity of chemical and mechanical agency. Neither does it promise, more than other medical treatment, to counteract potencies overwhelming the organism beyond the power of reaction. But, passing all such cases as not within the scope of its ministry, it confines itself strictly to its legitimate province, the treatment of medical cases. As a Medical science, it views the manifestations of disease as consequences of disturbed vital action. Hence it employs agents whose *dynamical* activity, ascertained by experiment on the healthy organism, is directed upon the vital forces thus disturbed,—and because disturbed, morbidly susceptible to the influence of homogeneous or similar irritants, beyond all human appreciation. Actuated by such views and illuminated by experience, Homœopathy cannot but inculcate the employment of doses much less than heretofore administered. Still, sufficient latitude is left to the discriminating judgment of each practitioner of each individual case, so that he never transcend the limits of conservative reaction; limits which, as we have before remarked, experience alone is competent to determine.

Again—Homœopathy is often styled, A New System of Medicine. This, it does not claim to be; for, a system of medicine must embrace all the important medical sciences. Now, Homœopathy came into existence not to supplant these; not to subvert, indeed, any thing previously established; but to supply an acknowledged, an imperative want—to complete, as it were, the arch of Scientific Medicine. So far from denying her obligations to the experience of past ages, in the very introduction of Hahnemann's Organon, its author has drawn largely upon this experience in support of his doctrine, So far from disowning the great advances which modern researches have effected in many departments of science, she frankly admits, and gladly avails herself of these essential elements of the great arch it was her province to complete—for example, the sciences of Special and General Anatomy, of Physiology and General Pathology, on the one side, and the various departments of Natural History and Chemistry, as sources of the Materia Medica, on the other. But, conceding even perfection to these indispensable sciences, it is manifest that without its keystone—a scientific system of Therapeutics—the arch of the medical sciences was alike devoid of symmetry and strength. For, what could it avail to the Art of Healing, though on the one hand, every fibre and every function of the animal frame, in health and disease, were perfectly disclosed—and on the other, creation had yielded up its stores, and Chemistry had analyzed them all and recombined their elements without limits, if that science which should teach the adaptation of agents thus multiplied, the removal of morbid action, was yet to be created? And that it was to be created, the whole history of Medicine testifies. All that was established on the subject, all that had effectually withstood the [illegible] of medical opinion marking this history, consisted of a few [illegible] cines and a few specific practices, (for which the art was [illegible]

to fortuitous or empirical sources,) and these not referred, but deemed irreferable to any consistent system of general principles, and of course offering no claim to the appellation of a science."

Miscellaneous.

Notices of Homœopathic publications by our opponents of the Allœopathic School.

The progress of Homœopathy is marked by certain uniform and well defined stages. When it is first introduced into any country, the old physicians previously prejudiced against it, of course do not take the least notice of this new art, so unseasonably intruding itself upon them. They either act as though they were entirely ignorant of its existence, or if they condescend to notice it at all, it is only to make it a subject of ridicule and jest.

After some time, however, when this system has made some advances, and gained over numerous advocates among people of respectability and distinction, Homœopathy and its publications cease to be so utterly disregarded by the Faculty. They now receive a slight and occasional notice. Such notices are, however, as a matter of course characterised by a tone of affected and utter contempt.

After the lapse of a few more years, Homœopathy gradually and steadily gains more and more adherents. Physicians of the old school, men of distinction, and who have practised for years on the old system, are persuaded to make trial of Homœopathy. They do so; are convinced of its truth; and declare themselves openly in its favour. Their convictions are published to the world; cures multiply in their hands, and such is the confidence of the people that they will hardly allow themselves to be treated by any other method. This stage of Homœopathy, and what may be considered as its *third period* is characterised by extensive and respectful, though generally unjust criticisms of the works and publications of its advocates. Their number and power having become too formidable to allow of their being slightingly treated, they at lenght receive at least a respectful, though it be not a candid opposition. Homœopathy has for a long time occupied this position in many of the states of Germany, in Brussels, in some parts of France, in Sw[illegible]

In A[illegible] ...ed. Our publications ... a respectful and ...ers in the old ... such is the ...ty of its progress ...ssing notice. T... ...lor

or courtesy than those which have been passed upon the doctrines of our system elsewhere under similar circumstances, would have been more than we should have any right to expect.

These reflections have been suggested upon reading the notice taken of this Journal in one of the last numbers of the "American Medical Library and Intelligencer," and the remarks made upon another Homœopathic publication in the August Number of the "Select Medical Library." We have no remarks to make upon the criticisms of these writers, any farther than the foregoing reflections, which may serve all the purposes of more especial comment. *d.*

View of the medical science, traced from the time of antiquity until the present age.

Chap. I.

OPINIONS OF EMMINENT PHYSICIANS OF THE ANCIENT AND MODERN TIMES. ON THE FALLACIES AND DANGER OF HYPOTHETICAL AND THEORETICAL REASONING IN THE ART OF MEDICINE.

The unwearied labours of Anatomists, from the ancient times, down to the present, have successfully thrown light on the human organisation.

We will not assert that Anatomy may not still make much progress in minute detail, yet the great discoveries made in the modern times, especially on the nervous system, by Le Gallois Wilson, Philip, Magendie, Brachet, Tiedemann, and Treviranus, having given it an exalted rank among other sciences, we may boldly assert that very little is left to the labours of a future generation.

Physiology or the study of the functions of the human body in a state of health, is indeed much less advanced.

We owe in a great measure to the two last centuries an entirely new branch of the medical science, one which has already advanced far towards perfection, and to which the name of pathological anatomy has been given.

Such are the anthropological sciences which may be deemed the basis of medicine.

Pathology, or the knowledge of diseases, has not kept even pace with the other anthropolical sciences.

Pathological anatomy has certainly contributed much to a more profound knowledge of many organic affections, especially what regards the diseases of the heart and lungs.

But viewed *pathology* in general, there is much unprofitable controversy upon many subjects, and many discrepancies in

opinion concerning the nature of diseases, and the variety and opposite treatment in curing, result from the obscurity in which this branch of medical science is wrapt up.

Materia medica. This division of the medical art, is the least matured of any. What has hitherto been considered is only their physical and chemical properties, their emetic, drastic or sudorific qualities.

The dynamic powers of the remedies, has been the least investigated.

Our present knowledge of drugs is mostly the result of customary use or empirical trial in disease. As, however, it would be impossible to try every remedy against each disease, it is equally impossible thereby to determine their specific action.

Therapeutics is one of the most important branches of medical science, for it is by its means that the physician attains his object, which is to cure.

Although, however, he studies all the other branches of medicine, with the view of arriving at this point, yet none is more fallacious than this branch of medicine.

To establish this fact, it is only necessary to observe the conduct of physicians in the sick chamber.

He would naturally by ashamed to appear ignorant, and he may not be ignorant of the evil, which he is called to arrest, he may describe and analyze it with the utmost accuracy, he may particularize not only the diseased organ, but the part of the organ which is affected.

For example if the chest is the seat of the disease, he may indicate which lobe of the lungs, is affected, and the derangements which has taken place in its functions, and in case of dropsy in the chest, he can point out, on which side, the water is accumulated. In a case of *paralysis* or *apoplexy*, he may exactly explain how the brain is affected, and in what part the extravasation of blood has taken place, in short he may accurately classify all other maladies which may be presented to him. But when it is necessary to decide on the remedies proper to subdue these maladies, then it is that a conscientious practitioner feels all the difficulty of his art, and dificiency of the means at his command.

It is then that he hesitates to decide which of the different remedies recommended by medical s most applicable,

because he has no law of certain and universal application to guide his decision.

The greater the number of physicians consulted, the greater is this uncertainty, for if they should agree on the name of the disorder, they find themselves fearfully at variance on the question of a remedy fitted to oppose it.

It must be admitted then by every enlightenend and conscientious member of the profession that the therapeutic branch is in our time very far behind all the other departments of the medical art.

Every practitioner, *says Rau*, chooses his remedies differently, according to the theory or the system, which he follows, it is all chance and conjecture.

Many practitioners, especially those who excel in their profession, combine the different systems together, they possess the ability, or tact, to adopt such a method, by analogy comparison, which serves them, as a guide to lead them through the rough paths of conjecture. However, those chosen, select ones are but few.

A medical system ought to be established upon sound and certain principles, it should free us from the danger to venture upon the path of conjecture, and try our fortune with the *checkered mosaik* of Eclecticism.

As a striking proof of the fallacy of the established doctrine, is the difficulty to apply the medical theories in practice, especially in complicated cases, what physician can deny the truth of this assertion.*

Let us hear the opinion of a few eminent man, on the state of medical practice.

* Bei dem Conflicte so vieler herrschender Meinungen und Ansichten, bei der gleichzeitigen Gangbarkeit so verschiedener Systeme und Methoden, waren in der That glückliche Kuren bisher weniger von der doctrinären Consequenz abhängig, als vom Talente des einzelnen Arztes, dessen sogenannter praktischer Blick es ihm vielleicht möglich machte, sich als Eclectiker Ruhm zu erwerben, dazu sind aber nur wenige berufen. Das System sollte uns eigentlich der Gefahr überheben, mit dem bunten Mosaik des Eclecticismus unser Heil zu versuchen. Es sollte der Faden seyn, der uns durch alle Labyrinthe nosologischer Spitzfindigkeiten und Widersprüche hindurch führt. Es giebt aber wohl keinen schlagenderen Beweis für die Unvollkommenheit der Theorie, als die beschränkte Brauchbarkeit derselben in der Praxis. Dass unter solchen Verhältnissen eine Reform der Heilkunst Bedürfniss war, unterliegt keinem Zweifel. (Rau.)

If medicine, says *Abercrombie*, is ever to attain a place among the inductive sciences, its first great step towards this distinction will be made, when medical inquireres agree to restrict their investigations to ascertaining *the universality of facts.*

By adhering to this rule, we shall avoid two errors, which will probably be admitted to have been frequent in medical reasonings, and to have had no inconsiderable influence, in retarding the progress of medical science.

The one is the construction of hypothetical theories, or the assumption of principles which are altogether gratuitous, and imaginary, the other is the deduction of general principles or conclusions from a limited number of facts. Doctrines of the former class, may be considered as almost independent of observation; and those of the latter kind, though they have an apparent foundation of facts are framed without due inquiry, whether these facts are universal. The confidence is indeed remarkable with which general statements of this last description are often brought forward, and the facility with which they are received, without due examination as established principles. We even find some writers, expressing such confidence in these deductions, as to talk of general rules in medicine with exceptions to these rules; and in this manner new observations, by which the rules might be corrected, are overlooked or forgotten. Such a phraseology indeed must probably be considered as at variance with the principles of sound investigation. We are in the habit of talking of general rules in grammar, and exceptions to these rules, because we know the precise extent to which the rules apply, and the exact number of instances, which form the exceptions, but in physical science to speak of exceptions to a general rule, cannot be regarded in any other light, than as an admission that the rule is not general, and consequently is unworthy of confidence.

The best means of avoiding the errors, which have now been referred to will probably be, to keep in mind the important principle, that the object of physical science is, to ascertain the universality of facts.

A considerable number of medical doctrines, there is reason to apprehend, will come out of the examination in rather an unsatisfactory manner, if we apply to them the tests, which this rule would furnish; namely, are they *facts*, and are these *facts universal.*

To reason abstractly without practical value, seems at all times to have been the tendency of medical men.

Athough we can have no hesitation in pronouncing, says *Mason Good*, that a judicious theory applied to practice is to be the correct and legitimate method of pursuing the study of medicine, yet it must be acknowledged at the same time, that it is a method, which, if not carefully watched, and strictly guarded by prudence and sagacity, is exposed to the greatest danger of being corrupted by ignorance and presumption. Hence we may easily conceive that it would be liable to fall into the grossest errors, and to lie open to the most serious imputation, and that a fair plea would always be found for exclaiming against the introduction of what is termed *theory into the practice of medicine.*

Since the first palpitation of the medical science, medical men have always wandered in idle quest, and brought back no substantial trophies from the regions of pathological speculation. If any one disputes these assertion let him keep in mind, that no system can be regarded as true, when its professors are so much at variance.

Inanis gloriæ desiderium simiola fuit, quæ medicos omni aetate compulit ad sectas condendas potius, quam ad nova in dies delegenda phænomena quæ morborum historiam illustrarent.

(*Bagliv.*)

What physician is not aware of the difficulty, to make the different theories applicable to practice, the simplest malady may claim the greatest authorities for a different method of cure Our most eminent men have been sceptical.

Boerhave calls the physician a fortunate man, if positively he does not injure his patient.

Reil in speaking of modern practice says; I have long enough been tossed on the sea of unfounded hypothesis to feel convinced that absolute darkness prevails in the medical practice, which cannot be dispelled by assertions, but only by experiments and experience.

There is among medical men, even as to the treatment of the simplest malady, a constant controversy of opinion which has no other tendency but to confuse the mind.

The ingenious Professor Hartmann from Vienna, says: On the theory of diseases, or general pathology:

Through all these gradations of development the theory of diseases and medicines is now arrived at its present position, whence from the highest point of theoretical speculation, physicians are now falling into the deepest abyss of empyricy, although men are not wanting, who without regard to their private interest generously publish their observations and the result of their experience for the benefit of pathology, seeking not only to give form but also substance, and organic conection to the treatment by the bed of the sick. But taking the general run of practitioners, we can convince ourselves that the most of them, excercise nothing but the rudest empiricy under the cloak of Homœopathic medicine, natural philosophy, contrastimalisme, Humoral pathology, Broussaisism, &c.

When it is further considered, says Sir Gilbert Blane, what a mass of credulity and error has actually accumulated in medicine, from the presumptuous attempt to grasp at such objects, and to make hasty and dangerous application of them to practice, when we cast our eyes upon our shelves, loaded with volumes, few of them contain any genuine profitable knowledge, the greater part of them composed chiefly, either nugatory, erroneous, inapplicable, or mischievous in which the dear bought grain is to be sought in the bushel of chaff, may it not be questioned, whether such researches have not tended more to retard and corrupt, than to advance and improve practical medicine?

Dr. Trinks in Dresden:

Es darf darum nicht Wunder nehmen. dass es in der Heilkunde des neunzehnten Jahrhunderts just so aussieht, wie zur Zeit des babylonischen Thurmbaues. Ueberall ein gräuliches Zerwürfniss zwischen Theorie und Praxis, die sich in den stärksten Contrasten gegenüberstehen, und sich gegenseitig Lüge strafen. Hier die kühnsten Speculationen und Constructionen, dort der krasseste Materialismus und die gröbste Empirie, Nachzügler von Brownjanern und Erregungstheoretikern. Hie und da einzelne Humoralpathologen, ächte und modifizirte *Stolljaner*, *Gastriker* und *Saburralisten*, *Contrastimulisten*, *Broussaianer*, *Jatrochemiker* in moderner Form, *Wasserdoctoren* uud Anhänger des famösen *Cadet de vaux*, *Magnetiseurs*, *Kieserianer* und *Schœnleinjaner*, ein buntes Gewimmel wie auf dem Gäthischen Jahrmarkte zu Plun-

DERSWEILERN!—Jede Messe ein Dutzend neuer pathologischer Systeme und medizinisch-chirurgicher Encyclopädien und beinahe ein halbes Hundert medizinischer Journale und eine Fluth von Rezepttaschenbüchern. Eine hoffnungsvolle Zuversicht für die Millionen leidender Menschenbrüder.

The routine practice, says LUTHER, does not merit the name of a system, it wants order, coherence of parts, and scientific unity, it is an aggregate of incongruous matter, a mere rhapsody.

GIRTANNER, says our *materia medica*, is a mere collection of fallacious observations, there are in it, some correct ones founded upon experience, but who would waste time in seeking for a few particles of gold, in that immense rubbish, collected so many centuries since.

HOFFMANN'S Opinion, Perpauca sint remedia quorum virtutes et operationes certæ, plurima vero *infida*, *suspecta*, *fallacia*, *ficta*.

Few are the remedies whose virtues and operations are certain, many are those which are *doubtful*, *suspicious*, *fallacious*, *false*.

De tout cet amas, said MONTAIGNE, *speaking of the mixture of drugs, ayant fait une mixture de breuvage, n'est ce pas quelque espece de reverie d'esperer que ces vertus s'aillent divisant et triant de cette confusion et melange pour courir a charges si diverses? Je craindrais infiniment qu'elles perdissent ou echangeassent leur etiquettes et troublassent leur quartier.*

Of the whole heap, having compounded a potion, it is not an idle fancy to hope that its various virtues shall proceed to separate and extricate themselves from that mixture and confusion, in order to execute missions so diversified? I should fear excessively that they might lose or swop their billets, and excite a riot at their quarters.

In mixing together, says DR. LUTHER, so many different kind of drugs, physicians consider the stomach, a *general-post-office* where all the drugs arrive at once and are thence dispatched, each to its proper destination, one to the nerves, another to the circulation, another to the lungs, another to the brain, &c.

Medical prescriptions, says DR. BUCHAN, are written in Latin

but this practice is not only ridiculous, it is likewise dangerous. However capable physicians may be of writing Latin. I am certain apothecaries are not in condition to read it, and that dangerous mistakes in consequence of this, may often happen. But suppose the apothecary ever so capable of reading the physician's prescriptions, he is generally otherwise employed, and the business of making up prescriptions, is left entirely to the apprentice. By this means the greatest man in the kingdon even when he employs a first rate physician, in reality trusts his life into the hands of an idle boy, who has not only the chance of being very ignorant, but likewise giddy and careless.

Multos esse medicos fama ac nomine re et opere paucos.
(*Hippocrates.*)

Sir *Gilbert Blane.* In many cases patients get well, in spite of the means employed, and sometimes when the practitioner fancies he has made a great cure, we may fairly assume the patient to have had a happy escape.

I know very well, says an old practitioner, that perhaps more than seven tenths of mankind die not from disease, but from the unsuitableness and excess of medicine.

Empirici et vetulæ sæpenumero in curandis morbis felicius operantur quam medici eruditi. (*Bacon.*)

Sydenham says: quæ medica appellatur, revera confabulandi garriendique potius est ars, quam medendi.

Several circumstances indeed connected with the science of medicine, have retarded its improvement, and given a plausibility to this charge of uncertainty; and none more than the different theories which have been advanced in explanation of the phenomena of the animal system in health and disease.

As the frame and bent of the human mind render theory unlable, and as theory in medicine will be safe and useful in tion as it is free from error; it is of consequence to ascercauses of those errors to which it is exposed.

s in theoretical medicine may be refered in the first place, sty conclusions which the earlier physicians drew from acts which were known to them; and to the fascinating ity to form systems upon data too limited in number, and contradictory.

In the second place, physicians have been unsuccessful in the establishment of true theory, from not having had sufficiently comprehensive views of the different organs and functions of the animal body.

To this circumstance is owing the rise of the humoral, the chemical the mechanical, the theory of irritation as distinct systems.

The glory of forming a new theory, and of constituting a new era in medicine, has seduced the leaders of each succeeding sect to an attempt of setting aside the doctrines of their predecessors, in order that their own particular system might be more firmly established and might shine with unrivalled lustre.

In the fourth place the so called dogmatics in forming their system, have often adopted certain data, which rest only on specious reasoning, *a priori*, and are supported neither by facts nor observation. This circumstance has as much as any other greatly retarded the improvement of medical knowledge.

It has introduced much false reasoning, and obscure language into medicine, whence it is to be feared, and to be regretted that erroneous, and therefore not harmless practical conclusions have been drawn.

I do not officiously or willingly point out, what I conceive to have been the grounds of mistake in medicine. I venerate the learning and ingenuity of our predecessors, which contributed to procure for the medical art, a name and a consequence in the estimation of mankind. If, however, they have failed, we ought to take a lesson from this failure, and by shunning the specious fallacy of hasty generalisation, and by having recourse to a diligent, accurate, and minute inquiry after facts, which inquiry the state of medicine demands of us, endeavour to promote its best and truest interests. (*Hamilton.*)

Medicine adhuc aliter comparata est, ut fuerit magis ostentata quam elaborata; etiam magis elaborata quam amplificata cum labores in eum insumpti potius in circulo quam in progressu se excercuerint, Plurima enim in eo video, a scriptoribus iterata, addita pauca.—!—

F. Bacon. de dign. et augment. scient. L. IV. c.

As bearing on the treatment wh
at their hands, the following may

Very few of the valuable discoveries in medicine, says Dr. *Buchan*, have been made by physicians, they have been either the effect of chance or of necessity, and have been always opposed by the faculty, till every one else was convinced of their importance.

An implicit faith in the opinions of teachers, and attachements to systems and established forms and the dread of reflection, will always operate upon those who follow medicine as a trade. Few improvements are to be expected from a man who dreads that he might ruin his character by even the smallest deviation from the established rule.

The whole of these observations, it will observed, are in no way directed against Anatomy, Physiology, Pathology, Surgery but solely against the so called materia medica, (what Prof. *Joerg*, calls a medical romance), and Therapeutics the art of applying those conjectural remedies in practice.

It seems evident from all this, that physic being an art beset with every species of fallacy, it is of the utmost importance, that those who engage in it should be fully aware of this, and that they should so discipline their minds, by a knowledge of the laws of evidence and the rules of investigation, as not to be lead astray by hypothesis and fallacious theories, to which the human mind in different circumstances, is so prone. And as we are to be guided more by experience than hypothesis, it is further manifest that the rules for ascertaining and appreciating facts and the study of the laws of evidence, ought to form an indispensable part of medical education. Nor let any one think that this is a matter of easy attainment. For Bacon himself the great author and leader in the employment of inductive reasoning, was so far infected by the prejudices and errors of his predecessors and contemporaries, as in various parts of his works, to give humiliating proofs of childish credulity, in regard to certain superstitious and frivolous practices which then prevailed.

Upon the imperfect conclusions drawn by individuals from their partial inquiries it has been well observed by Sir C. Morgan, that in every thing that concerns vital action, there are so many points to consider so many discounts and allowances to be made, before the result of experiments can be obtained with purity and precision, that almost every writer has given a different sum total to his labours. The chemist is not necessarily a good physio-

logist, nor the physiologist an accurate experimenter, so that it is rare to find a person uniformly well qualified to discuss the questions which arise in these investigations. But as every one relies on his own observations, theories have been formed by an abuse of induction from the partial results of individual inquiry, by almost every author who has written on the subject.

The various causes which have most materially obstructed the progress of practical medicine may be attributed, to the unfortunate circumstance of physicians of eminence in their profession, mistaking effects for causes assuming imaginary for the real laws of the animal economy.

Thus in tracing the course of nature they mistook its dictates and followed the chimeras of their own imagination.

Medicine, says Dr. *Cowan*,* for many very evident reasons, has been and continues to be the victim of varied and contradictory hypotheses:—the minds of all who have attempted to trace its deviating course, have wearied in the vague conflict of opinions, and have either sheltered themselves under the authority of a name, or satisfied their doubts by the creation of a principle quite as hypothetical and uncertain as any by which they were previously bewildered. This favoured progeny of their fancy like coloured media to the vision, soon tinges all intellectual combinations, and falsifies the very evidence of the senses; facts seem to multiply in its support, and what at first was regarded as probable, soon strengthens with the fond hope of discovery and the assent of eager uninquiring enthusiasts becoming the basis of a system from which dissent involves error, and opposing facts are either overlooked or discredited. With such a mental bias, the very talents and researches of an individual become injurious to a profession he would otherwise have adorned, and how often in looking back over the history of medicine, can we see, as it were our progress arrested by some favourite dogma of a powerful but prejudiced mind, until a rival intellect lays bare the fallacy, erects another in its stead, changing little more than the name of what it thought to have annihilated. The "Solidists," the "Fluidists," the "Brownists," the "Cullenists," and the "Broussaiists," with many others, have undoubtedly obstructed the path of rigorous and impartial observation, by limiting the wide field of phi-

* Pathological researches on phthysis by P. Ch. A. Louis, translated from the French by Charles Cowan.

losophic inquiry to the too often forced adaptation of facts calculated to support their own peculiar and almost necessarily imperfect conceptions, and although their labours have not been fruitless, and much positive knowledge may be gleaned from the mass of their investigations, who does not feel that its volume has been infinitely lessened, and its value impaired by the pre-existence of a principle it was intended to establish, rather than eliminate? The ease with which a theory may be proposed and supported, is exactly proportionate to the vagueness of our knowledge, to the absence of impartial incontestible facts; and until the latter have enjoyed that natural precedence which has been granted them in every science that deserves the name, our deductions can never be established upon any satisfactory and lasting foundation. Could genius grasp the bearings of those laws which influence the health and modify the case of organized beings, *still* observation would be necessary to test the truth or false hood of its inspirations, but from the finite nature and contracted limits of the human faculties, the necessity of observation if not more absolute is at least more glaring, and the conviction of our mental feebleness should make us shrink from all hasty precocious generalisation.

Let the candid inquirer contemplate the mass of crude amorphous materials which ages have accumulated; let him glance over those creeds of medical infallibility which have successfully risen and waned in the opinion of mankind; then let him direct his view to the living representatives of systems, either stamped with antiquity, or attractive by their modern freshness and apparent novelty and what are the conclusions he must form? Let him change his locality, and he changes his opinion, while every where *facts* are their reputed foundations. The pure *antiphologistics* of the French, the *controstimulants* of the Italian, the *hepatic nostrums* of England, all lay claims to his attention, and are all recommended as the fruits of long experience and multiplied observation. The discovery of truth from such conflicting testimonies, if possible is at least a Herculean task, and he either becomes the bigotted partisan of a sect, or what is far more rarely the case, resolved to have recourse to rigorous impartial inquiry. The results of his labours may indeed be unsatisfactory, and must necessarily embrace but a limited portion of the vast field of medical investigation, he will, however, ensure the satisfaction of collecting materials available to others, and

have sacrificed the desire of ephemeral reputation, to the far higher motive of being useful. It is indeed a subject of deep congratulation, that minds such as these are daily multiplying, and in looking back on what a few years have effected, there is every encouragement for future anticipation, and every reason to suppose, that the results to which we shall ultimately arrive, though never probably of any Utopian character, will at least commend themselves to the reception of every sound and unprejudiced mind.

What names we would ask, continue to survive the oblivious tendency of time? The detailers and chroniclers of *facts* not *opinions;* the latter have sunk into the abyss of forgetfulness, and truth alone swims over the extant of ages.

Prof. *Rush's* opinion on the causes which have retarded the progress of medicine:

1. An undue attachment to great names, *Hippocrates, Galen, Araeteus* among the ancients, Boerhaave, Cullen, Brown, Broussais among the moderns have all in their turns established a despotism in medicine, by the popularity of their names, which has imposed a restraint upon free inquiry, and thereby checked the progress of medicine, particularly in the ages and countries in which they have lived.

2. An undue attachment to unsuccessful but fashionable modes of practice. Where a medicine does not generally cure a disease in its recent state, it is either an improper remedy, or it is given at an improper time, or in an improper quantity.

3. Indolence and credulity in admitting things to be true, without sufficient examination. The acrid humours of Boerhaave would not have prevailed so long in our systems of pathology, had the blood been sooner subjected to a natural and chemical analysis; (!) nor would a belief in the specific nature of the plague, or the competency of quarantines to prevent the importation of the yellow fever, have been so universal in the beginning of the nineteenth century, had the facts, which are numerous and plain upon those subjects, received a faithful and candid investigation.*

* When the *cholera* raged so fiercely on the continent of Europe in the years 1829—30—31 some physicians proposed the firing of canon-balls to destroy the contagious effect of that disease. Our excellent satirist Dr. Mises remarked on that occasion, that he should never have expected that such large pills would become fashionable in medicine.

4. Neglect to record *minute symptoms* in the history of diseases. Hippocrates and Sydenham are justly exempted from this charge against our profession. Had their method of examining and describing diseases been generally followed, we should not this day complain of so much imperfection in our science. A disease is a lawless evil.

To understand its nature from its symptoms, it should be inspected every hour of the day and night. It is during the latter period fevers most frequently have their exacerbations and remissions and it is only by accomodating our remedies to them,—!—that the practice of medicine can become regular and successful.

5. The neglect to discriminate between the remote and exciting causes of diseases. Under the influence of this negligence, the death of many persons from the miasmata which produce the yellow fever, has often been ascribed to the full meal, the intoxicating draught, the long walk, the night air, which excited them into action.

6. The neglect to employ the passions as remedies in the cure of diseases an accidental paroxysm of joy, fear, or anger, has often induced a sudden and favourable crisis in cases of doubtful issue.

7. The great and unnecessary number of medicines which are used for the cure of diseases. Did we prescribe more for their state and less for their name, a fourth part of the medicines now in use would be sufficient for all the purposes intended by them.

By thus limiting their number, we should acquire a more perfect knowledge of their virtues and doses and thereby exhibit them with more success.

8. An exclusive dependency upon some one medicine, or one class of remedies. Bleeding, purges, and vomits, sweating medicines, hot and cold water, ice and snow, baths of different kinds, opium and bark, crude quicksilver and calomel, iron and copper, acid and alkalies, lime and tarwater, fixed air and oxygen have all been used separately by physicians, in diseases which required in their occasional changes, the successive application of many different medicines of opposite virtues or a variety of the same class of medicines. This exclusive attachment to one set of remedies, has not been confined to individual physicians.

Whole nations are as much distinguished by it as they are by language and manners. In England cordial and sweating medicines (purgatives not excepted), in France bleeding, injections, and diluting drinks of Gum water, rice and barley water, in Italy cups and leeches, in Russia hot and cold baths, and in China frictions constitute the predominating and fashionable remedies in all their respective diseases.

9. The dependent state of physicians upon public opinion for their subsistence. It is this which has checked innovation in the practice of medicine and too often made physicians the apothecaries of their patients.* To a dependency of our profession upon commerce, we are in part to ascribe the belief of the importation of pestilential diseases in nearly all the large cities in Europe and America.

10. The interference of governements in prohibiting the use of certain remedies and inforcing the use of others by law. The effects of this mistaken policy has been as hurtful to medicine, as a similar practice with respect to opinions has been to the christian religion.†

11. Conferring exclusive privileges upon bodies of physicians, and forbidding men of equal talents and knowledge, under severe penalties from practising medicine within certain districts of cities and countries. Such institutions, however, sanctioned by ancient charters and names are the bastiles of our science.

12. The refusal in universities to tolerate any opinions in the private or public exercise of candidates for degrees in medicine which are not taught nor believed by their professors, thus restraining a spirit of inquiry in that period of life, which is most distinguished for ardour and invention in our science. It was from a view of the prevalence of this conduct that Dr. Adam Smith, has called universities the dull repositories of exploded opinions.

* It is this, and this chiefly which checks the progress of Homœopathy.

† Before the Homœopathic doctrine attracted the attention of the princes of Europe its followers were prohibited to prepare their own remedies. The enemies of the system lurked behind, and when once they got a hint, that some one strove against this barbarous interference of governement, he was summoned to the courthouse, made answerable for his deeds like a miscreant and compelled to pay heavy penalties for that which was nothing but an act of conscience.

The last cause I shall mention which has retarded the progress of medicine, is the division of diseases into genera and species by means of what has lately received the name of nosology.

Upon this part of our subject, I shall be more particular than was necessary for the former remarks; for no one of the causes, which have been assigned of the imperfection of our science, has operated with more effect than the nosological arrangement of diseases.

1st. Nosology presupposes the characters of diseases to be as fixed as the characters of animals and plants, but this is far from being the case. Animals and plants are exactly the same in all their properties, that they were nearly six thousand years ago, but who can say the same thing of any one disease? They are all changed by time, and still more by climate, and a great variety of accidental circumstances. But the same morbid state of the system often assumes in the course of a few days, all the symptoms of a dozen different genera of diseases. Thus a malignant fever frequently invades every part of the body, and is at once, or in succession, an epitome of the whole class of pirexiae in Dr. Cullen's synopsis.

2d. The nosological arrangement of diseases has been attempted from their causes and seats. The remote causes of diseases all unite in producing but one effect, that is morbid excitement and of course are incapable of division. The proximate cause of diseases is an unit for whether it appears in the form of convulsion, spasm, a prostration of action, heat, or itching, it is alike the effect of simple diseased excitement. The impracticability of dividing diseases into genera and species from their seats, will appear when we consider the feeble state of sensibility in some of the internal organs, and the want of connexion between impression and sensation in others; by which means there is often a total absence of the sign of pain or a deceitful and capricious translation of it to another part of the body in many diseases. In the most acute stage of inflammation in the stomach their is frequently no pain, vomiting, nor sickness. The liver in the East-Indies undergoes a general suppuration, and sometimes a partial destruction without pain or any of the common signs of local inflammation. Dr. Chisholm in his essay upon the malignant West-India fever, mentions its fatal issue in two sailors whom he

dissected, in one of whom he discovered great marks of inflammation in the lungs, and in the other a mortification in the right kidney; but in neither of them, he adds, was perceived the least sign of disease in those viscera, during their sickness. Baglivi found a stone in the kidney of a man who had complained of a pain only in the kidney of the opposite side during life. I have lost two patients with abscesses in the lungs, who complained only of a pain in the head. Neither of them had a cough, and one of them had never felt any pain in his breast or sides. Many hundred facts of a similar nature are to be met with in the records of medicine. Even in those cases where impression does not produce sensations in remote parts of the body, it is often so diffused by means of what has been happily called by Dr. Johnson an intercommunion of sensation, that the precise seat of a disease is seldom known. The affection of the bowels and brain furnish many proofs of the truth of this observation.

Errors in theory seldom fail of producing errors in practice. Nosology has retarded the progress of medicine in the following ways.

1st. It has led physicians to prescribe exclusively for the names of diseases without a due regard to the condition of the system, this practise has done the most extensive mischief, where a malignant or inflammatory constitution of the atmosphere (?!) has produced a single or predominating epidemic, which calls for the same class of remedies, under all the modifications which are produced by a difference in its seat and exciting causes.

2d. It multiplies unnecesarily the articles of the materia medica, by employing nearly as many medicines, as there are forms of disease. I know it has been said, that by rejecting nosology, we establish indolence in medicine, but the reverse of this assertion is true; for if our prescriptions are to be regulated chiefly by the force of morbid excitement, and if this force be varied in acute diseases by a hundred different circumstances even by a cloud according to Dr. Lining, lessening for a few minutes, the light and heat of the sun, it follows, that the utmost watchfulness and skill will be necessary to accomodate our remedies to the changing state of the system.

It remains now, that I mention the means of promoting its certainty and greater usefulness. It will readily occur that this is

to be done by avoiding all the causes, which have produced its present state of imperfection.

1st. Let us strip our profession of every thing that looks like mystery and imposture, and clothe medical knowledge in a more simple garb. Truth is simple upon all subjects, but upon those which are essential to the general happiness of mankind it is obvious to the meanest capacities.

There is no man so simple, that cannot be taught to cultivate grain and no woman so devoid of understanding, as to be incapable of learning the art of making that grain into bread and shall the means of preserving our health by the culture and preparation of aliment be so intelligible, and yet the means of restoring it when lost be so abstruse as to require so many complicated means for its application? To suppose this is to call in question, the goodness of the Supreme Being, and to believe that he acts without unity and system in all his works.

In no one of the acts of man, do we behold more weakness and error, than in our present modes of education. We teach our sons words, at the expense of things. We teach them what was done two thousand years ago, and conceal from them, what is doing every day. We instruct them in the heathen mythology but neglect to teach them the principles of the religion of their country. We teach them to predict eclipses and the return of comets, from which no physical advantages worth naming, have ever been derived; but we give them no instruction in the signs which precede general and individual diseases. How long shall the human mind bend beneath the usages of ancient and barbarous times? When shall we cease to be mere scholars and become wise philosophers, well informed citizens and useful men?

From a review of what has been lately effected by our science I cannot help admitting with Dr. Hartley, that in that happy period predicted in the old and new Testament, when religion shall combine its influence upon the passions and conduct of men, will fresh discoveries in medicine. Christian Missionaries shall procure the same credit, and kind reception among pagan and savage nations, *by curing diseases by natural means* (!) which the apostles obtained by curing them by supernatural power. Yes, the time I believe will come, [illegible]n the perfection of our

science, men shall be so well acquainted with the method of destroying poisons that they shall tread upon scorpions and serpents without being injured by them, and mothers from their knowledge and use of the same antidotes, shall cease to restrain a sucking child from playing on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child from putting his hand on the cockatrice's. Suspended animation, if it should occur in that enlightened state of the world shall no more expose the subjects of it to premature interment. Pestilential diseases shall then cease to spread terror and death, over half the globe; for *interest* and *prejudice* shall no longer oppose the removal of the obvious and offensive causes which produce them.

Lazarettos shall likewise cease to be the expensive and inhuman monuments of error and folly in medicine and in government. Hospitals shall be unknown, (the liquor and drogue shops will be destroyed), the groans of pain, the ravings of madness, and the sighs of melancholy shall be heard no more. The cradle and the tomb, shall no longer be related, for old age shall then be universal.

Long, long before this revolution in the health and happiness of mankind shall arrive, you and I must sleep with our fathers in the silent grave. But a consolation is still left to us, under the pressure of this reflection. If we cannot share in the happiness we have destined for our posterity, we can contribute to produce it. For this purpose let us attempt a voyage of circumnavigation in medicine, by resurveying all its branches in their connexion with each other. Let no part, nor function of body and no law of the animal economy, escape a second investigation.

Let all the remote causes of diseases and above all, let the resources of our profession in the materia medica (which is nothing but a combination for error, got up by chance and conjecture what Prof. Jœrg pleases to call a medical romance) be subjected to fresh examinations. It is probale many new remedies remain yet to be discovered; but most of the old ones, demand new experiments and observations to determine their doses and efficacy. It is impossible to say, how much the certainty of medicine might be promoted, and its usefulness increased by a more extensive knowledge of its application.

But in vain shall we enlarge our knowledge of the remedies, nay more, to no purpose would an antedeluvian age be employed in collecting facts upon all the different branches of medicine

unless they can be connected and applied by principles of some kind. Observation without principles is nothing but empiricism, and however much the contradictions and uncertainties of theories may be complained of; I believe much greater uncertainty and contradictions will be found in the controversies among physicians concerning what are said to be facts, and too upon subjects in which the *senses alone* are employed to judge between truth and error.*

I know from experience, the consequences of contending with ancient prejudices and popular names in medicine, with abilities greatly inferior to the contest. But I have not laboured in vain. If I have not removed any part of the rubbish which surrounded the fabric of our science, nor suggested any thing better in its place. I feel a consolation in believing that I have taught many of your predecessors to do both by exciting in them a spirit of inquiry and a disposition to controvert old and doubtful opinions, by the test of experiments. I have only to request you to imitate their exampls. Think, read and observe, observe, read and think for yourselves.

Chap. II.

OF THE ERRORS, EXCLUSIVENESS AND ULTRAISM OF MEDICAL MEN.

†The age in which we live, says the ingenious Dr. Ticknor, is most emphatically and truly, an age of improvement. When we look at the world, as

* Abjectior humanæ naturæ conditio ad scientiam intuitivam nullatenus assurgens intra angustos limites cognitionis, quam a quinqe sensibus haurire potest limites coarctatur. Unde nilominus vir prudens, quantum fert sors humana, quis potest evadere, philosophus vero, saltem pro augustiori huius nomininis majestate, nemo mortalium evadet unquam. Medici autem philosophia omnis in expiscandis morborum historiis iisque remediis adhibendis, quæ experientia indice et magistra eosdem valent depellere, tota stat, observata tamen medendi methodo, quam recta ratio non speculationem commentis, sed trito et naturali cogitandi modo innixa ei dictaverit.

† Der Geist unserer Zeit ist die Frucht grosser Vergangenheit und der Saame grossartiger Zukunft. Die Gegenwart ist der Uebergangspunkt mächtiger Gährungen in Wissenschaft und Leben. Wo wir hinblicken, begegnet uns schroffer Gegensatz und gewaltiger Zwiespalt in Meinung und Ansicht; zugleich aber gewahren wir die Zeichen versöhnender Steigung, welche aus dem Kampfe der Parteiungen hervorgehen muss; denn alle Entzweiungen haben ursprünglich die Einheit in sich verhüllt, und die Zeit entwickelt sie Licht als die Frucht des

it is at the present day, and contrast it, with its previous history, we shall have the most perfect demonstration, that the onward progress in the arts and sciences, as well as the more immediately useful inventions in mechanism, has been vastly greater, since the commencement of the nineteenth century, than during a much longer space of time, at any other previous period in the history of man.

The perfection that has been given to the steam engine, and its various applications, which in its turn, is in a fair way to be eclipsed by the discoveries in electro-galvanism, has wrought most miraculous changes on our planet; it has in a measure superseded manual labor and has so approximated distant regions, and opposite climates, that time and space are nearly annihilated. Stepping back a little into the last century we shall find that political revolutions, such as the world never before witnessed, caused by the growth and diffusion of liberal sentiments and information, have changed the aspects of states and nations, and disseminated light and knowledge, where they had not before existed.

In fact all the changes and improvements of the present day are owing to the diffusion of knowledge; they are but the legitimate effects of a powerful cause—*a lever which moves the world.*

Christianity has extended her influence to almost every heathen nation; and by the Gospel and the arts and improvements of civilised life, the thick clouds and mists of ignorance and superstition are dissipated, and man is made to attain the eminence which his maker designed. Several branches of the healing art amid the general march of improvement have by no means remained stationary, but have made rapid, and astonishing strides to perfection.

But, however, pleasing the contemplation of the progressive improvement in the condition of the human family may be, yet, the view is not one of unobstructed sunshine and beauty. Every new thing, or novel project, is not an improvement, and every innovation is not a useful invention. With the valuable ore in a recently discovered mine, there is often blended something that is worthless or that spoils the metal. If this age is characterized by improvement, the march of intellect, useful inventions, and boundless benevolence, it is no less strongly marked by the wildest extravagance and fanaticism. Whatever scheme is undertaken, whether for the profit or pleasure of ourselves, or for the good of others, is carried far beyond the bounds, which true philosophy would assign to it.

Religion, politics, the desire of amassing wealth in various ways, the rage for speculation, &c., all rage with the violence of a tempest. They are pushed by their advocates to extremity, and not unfrequently, to a remarkable degree of absurdity. An abstract principle right and good, and pure in itself,

ergänzenden Lebens. Darum bietet uns die jüngste Vergangenheit den Anblick einer in schroffe Gegensätze auseinander gehenden Zeit in Wissenschaft und Leben, ein Ausgebären und Entwickeln aller gegensätzlichen Ansichten und Meinungen bis zur höchsten Spitze; die Gegenwart bildet dann naturgemäss den Uebergangs- und Wendepunkt aller dieser feindlichen Entzweiungen, und leitet zur Ausgleichung und Versöhnung hin, deren Ziel die nächste Zukunft zu erkennen und zur allmähligen Verwirklichung zu bringen hat. (Prof. Werber)

and productive of the best fruits when wisely acted upon is adopted; and without regard to the individual cases to which it may be applicable or careless of consequences, or the circumstances which modify its operation and influence, it is made the *primum mobile* of all subsequent conduct. Like a quack medicine, that is extolled as a sovereign cure for all the diseases that flesh is heir to, or any valuable remedy in the hands of an empiric, an abstract principle is universally applied, and if mischief results, the blame is attributed to any thing else, rather than to the unskilfulness, or ignorance of him, who administers the remedy. The exclusiveness and ultraism of the present age, is the result of that principle which led Napoleon to such astonishing success in his military career and by which he achieved his multitude of splendid victories. It is the concentration of force—the union of effort—and an undivided attention to a given object—which is certain to ensure success, where that is practicable in any undertaking or enterprise, and which is equally certain to degenerate into the wildest extravagance and the most grievous error, when the aim is misdirected. Much of the improvement and extravagance of the day, is, no doubt due to the study of a single subject—to the devotion of genius to a particular pursuit—with an exclusive, ardent, enthusiastic, and almost delirious attachment to the subject which so engages the mind.

Beneficial results will most assuredly ultimately flow from the errors and vagaries that are manifested, as well as from the discoveries that are made and the truths that are developed; but not till the errors are perceived, and duly appreciated; they will then stand as landmarks to the pilgrim of science or as beacons on the hidden rocks and quicksands, warning the mariner of unseen danger.

A succeeding rather tham the present generation will profit by the truth and the error that we shall leave behind us; they will reap the fruits of our labour when time, the only true test, shall have refined the ore, and the dross shall have become separated from the pure metal. The preceding remarks are peculiarly applicable to the medical profession. We have made innovations that startle for a season, but soon sink with their authors into merited contempt and neglect—and even the most valuable of our improvements are in danger, from the too ardent zeal of their friends, of being considered as worthless, and cast into the sea of oblivion. Like the principle of temperance which is right in theory and practice, as far as it is necessary for health and comfort, or expedient for morals, it may be led to include every article, either of food or drink, whose abuse in the hands of the unprincipled or unthinking can by any possibility do harm. Exclusiveness and ultraism seem to be the order of the day in medicine, as well as in most other things; but there is one thing which exclusiveness would do well to remember—and it is this—*that a good thing may be urged so far as to render its rejection certain.* Most well regulated minds refuse to accede to a proposition although it may be based upon truth, whose tendency is to exclusiveness, and spurning the narrow bounds prescribed them by a want of philosophy, they refuse to acknowledge the frenzy of a zealot, or the dogmas of a master.

If we consult the history of medicine, we shall find that the most opposite theories have existed at the same time, and have each been most zealously

defended by their advocates; and these, again, have given place to others, with almost the frequency and regularity that one crop of vegetation is succeeded by another, which have been as warmly praised, and as soon exploded and forgotten as their predecessors.

Among those who have been contending for victory and notoriety in our profession, there have occasionally been seen some honest labourers after truth—those whose primary object it was to clear away the rubbish of former theories, and amid their wreck, to seek whatever material there might be fit for a more durable edifice, and lay its foundations upon a wider, firmer, and more permanent basis. The theories that have been framed to account for the proximate cause of typhus fever, and the consequent treatment of the disease may be adduced to illustrate the fate of all, or nearly all fabrics of a kindred character. *The humoral doctrine of Boerhaave was succeeded by the nervous doctrine of Cullen, whose splendid reign was in its turn terminated by the appearence of the cerebral doctrine of Clutterbuck, which was again destroyed by the omnipresence of the gastro-enteric doctrine of Broussais: whose glory is already suffering a partial eclipse by the dothinenteric doctrine of Brettonnean, Bouillaud and others of the French masters.†

* A mesure que l'humorisme fit des progres, les purgatifs acqtirent une vogue de plus en plus grande: on les employa dans presque toutes les maladies et, comme on crut voir en eux un remede universel, contre tous les maux, on leur donna le nom pompeux de medecine, consacre encore de nos jours par le vulgaire, aux potions purgatives. Avec de pareilles idees on devait non seulment prescrire des purgatifs aux malades, comme moyens curatifs mais encore aux personnes saines, pour les preserver des maladies qui pourraient les affliger. De l'habitude assez generale, dans les siecles precedens, de se purger plusiers fois par an, ou du moins aux temps des equinoxes et des solstices. Les historiens rapportent que Louis XIII., roi de France, fut purge cent fois dans le courant d'une annee. Apres la terminaison de toute maladie, les medecins humoristes ne manquerent jamais d'administrer un purgatif pour evacuer tout ce qui, suivant eux, pouvait etre reste de la matiere corrompue ou viciee et les plus celebres medecins du dernier siecle, qui cherchaient a baser la medecine uniquement sur l'observation et l'experience, ne sont pas tout a fait a labri de ce reproche: car, pour ne parler que de Sydenham, qui ne sait quil administrait toujours de purgatifs a la fin de toute maladie febrile, meme apres les fievres intermittents? (Dr. Martens).

† Boerhaave taught that fever was the result of a depraved state of the blood—Cullen, that it was an affection of the nervous system.—Clutterbuck, that it was located in the brain—Brousssais, that it consisted in a inflammation of the mucous membrane of the stomach and upper portion of the alimentary canal—while Bretoneau and Bouillaud now teach that it consists in the inflammation and ulceration of certain glands in a portion of the alimentary canal. As a further offset to the evidence adduced from post examination, it must be observed, that so far as the mere redness or injected state of the mucous membrane is concerned we can draw no certain inference as to the previous existence of influencing this structure. That these phenomena are frequently the result of changes affected in articulo mortis, or post mortem is fully demonstrated by the observations of Mr. Yellowly and Mr. Seeds.

Broussais and his followers are indeed fully sensible of the observation of Celsus. Neoque quicquam esse stultius quam quale quid in vivo homine est, tale existimare

The contrariety of practice consequent upon such discrepant theories.—The *antiseptics* and *antacids* of one school, the *antispasmadics* and *diaphoretics* recommended by another, the *cordials* and *stimulants* by a third—whilst the whole of these remedies are condemned by a fourth class of physicians, whose chief remedy and sole hope consists in leeches to the head, or some region, of the abdomen, &c., is but a fair specimen of the uncertainty and fluctuation that has ever attended the practice of the healing art. Such an aspect of affairs may well excite the attention of a philosophic mind and raise the trite but important query, who shall decide when doctors disagree! —

There are, and probably always will be those, who believe in the doctrine of essential, idiopatic fevers, specific diseases and contagion; and while they would in some instances do mischief, by the malpractice in stimulating and purging too much a Broussaisian would be guilty of no less evil, by following on the practice of his own theory—by leeching and bleeding too much. Bleeding appears to be the order of the day. The inveterate theoretical Bleeder will bleed in the most opposite states of the system, he will bleed to check the circulation, if depressed he will bleed to restore it, and to increase the heat of the body when it is below a healthy standard—he draws blood to subdue reaction, and to excite it, he calls bleeding a sedative, and again he says it is a stimulant—with such a man bleeding is a *sine qua non*, it is almost food and drink, and is about equivalent to vomiting and purging—it is refrigerant in summer, and calefacient in winter—a hobby which he rides either rough or smooth shod.

When the question was put to an ancient orator, as to what was most necessary to constitute a good speaker, he replied *action;* when he was asked what was next most important again he replied *action;* and when the question was reiterated the third time, the third time he replied *action.* Were a modern *Sangrado* asked what was most necessary in the treatment of disease, doubtless he would reply, *bleeding;* should the question be reprated, undoubtedly he would repeat the same answer, and should it be reiterated the third, or to the thirtieth time, the same answer would be as often returned, unless perchance it should be varied to *leeches,* Calomel, purgatives.

Our modern Pathologists, *Marshall Hall, Louis,* the author of the numerical system (!!) think bleeding the *fac totum* in all maladies, it is the non plus ultra, when drawn in quantities of 40—50 ounces. Bloodletting, says our ingenious author Marshall Hall, is not only the most powerful and important, but the most generally used, of all our remedies. Scarcely a case of acute, or indeed of chronic disease, occurs, in which it does not become necessary to consider the propriety of having recourse to the *lancet* (!!). To what extent bloodletting is carried in our modern age, may be learned from the following examples, which I have extracted from the most standard work of Marshall Hall on the blood.

ao iam mortuo, for where they fail in detecting a red and injected
mbrane of the bowels, they account for its absence by ascrib-
hange, thus availing themselves of this fact, when it affords
hilst they manifest an unwillingness to allow any im-
ced against their doctrine.

John Filser, aged 40, a short healthy countryman, applied for advice on the 27th of March, he complained of pain in the left side, which was increased on his attempting to inspire, said he has been subject to imflammation of the lungs, and had always been obliged to bleed for it.

The symptoms were not very urgent, I therefore took *only* fifteen ounces of blood, (just to begin with), which offorded him very trifling relief; I gave him a purgative (!!) and desired to hear from him on the following morning.

On the 28th he was enabled to walk with the greatest difficulty about half a mile to see me; he said the pain was exceedingly increased, and he could not make the slightest attempt at inspiration; I again bled him, sitting in the upright posture in a chair, from a very large orifice: fourty-four ounces (!) flowed before either relief or syncope was produced. The blood was drawn in seven different cups, each of which the patient held himself (a very submissive patient) during the operation; by the time he had lost forty-eight ounces, he was in a state of syncope from which, however, he soon recovered; the pain had entirely left him, and he was enabled to inspire as freely as usual. The blood was lost in about three or four minutes, the last twenty ounces having a thick buffy coat.*

I was sent for to see Henry Bawden, aged 50, on August 18th at eleven A. M. On my arrival I found him in a bed lying on his back with his shoulders and head raised, breathing with great difficulty, and affected with an uneasy sensation of dryness in the throat, with a voice extremely hoarse, and reduced to a scarcely audible whisper, his pulse was full and strong, and 86 in a minute; there was considerable thirst; added to the affection of the larynx; Immediately opened a vein in the right arm and took *thirty-five* ounces of blood, the patient being in a recumbent position receiving it in

* Boerhaave thought that the proximate cause of inflammation was a morbid viscidity of the blood, obstructing the course of circulation in the small vessels The main fact brought in proof of this, was the buffy coat formed on the surface of blood, drawn from a patient lobouring under an inflammatory affection. This is disproved by considerations so obvious, that it is truly unaccountable that they should not have occurred to this eminent physician and his followers. For in the first place, it does not appear in blood taken at the beginning of inflammation, as it certainly would, if the alleged viscidity were the cause of the disorder —secondly: The same crust appears on blood, taken from a person labouring under inflammation from a mechanical injury, such as a fractured bone: a sure proof that it must be an effect, and not a cause —Thirdly this crust is merely the separated coagulable lymph of the blood, at all times present in it, and an essential constituent of it; and when it separates itself on the surface, it is from its fluidity being increased, and from continuing longer in a fluid state while in the act of cooling, so far is this appearence from arguing viscidity. This erroneous doctrine of Boerhaave, has still a great influence upon the mind of many practitioners who think still that the buffy coat formed on the surface of the blood, after having drawn from the patient, is an indication to bleed and bleed, again

Quelle est la plus terrible des terr
C'est l'home dans son erreur.

The most terrible of terrors
Is man in his errors.

six distinet tea-cups. This did not produce the least faintness; the buffy coad of the blood was considerable; saline medicine with the tartaras antimonii, was given every four hours.

On the 18 at seven P. M. I again saw him and considered it necessary that the bleeding should be repeated; this was accordingly done to the extent of *twenty-five* ounces without producing faintness. The same medicines were directed for him with an *opiate* at bed-tine, (opium and bleeding an excellent composition).

On the 19 at eight A. M. I again bled him! and when I had taken about fifteen ounces of blood he became pale and sick (no wonder) a profuse perspiration broke out over the whole body, and for the first time complete syncope was produced.

On the 20th twenty leeches were applied to his throat, and then a blister after which no further depletion was necessary. Elisabeth Smith, aged 18, having been much out of health during two months, was admitted into Bartholomew's Hospital, on Oct, the 29. complaining of violent pain across the abdomen augmented on pressure; the breathing hurried, the pulse 110 and hard, the bowels confined, she was placed in bed and bled from the arm, and although in the recumbent posture she fainted when XII ounces of blood had been taken.

On the 30th the pain continued unabated; she was again bled in the recumbent position, and syncope occurred when Dr. XIV. had flowed. Forty drops of tincture of opium (!!) was given inemediately after bleeding.

On the 31th ounces XV of blood were taken, in the same manner and with the same effect, and twenty leeches were applied.

On Nov. the 1st thirty leeches were applied. On the 3d the pain and tenderness of the bowels were increased, the pulse hard and 115: Dr. XI. of blood were taken, and syncope was again produced and Dr. VII. were drawn from the loins by cupping, still the pain was unabated ou the 7th and she had become extremely feeble, (I should think so), the pulse was 130 the retina had become acutely sensitive to light: the extremeties cold, and the legs swollen; and the urine was limpid and sometimes passed involontarily.

She now took the Extractum conii (!!) at bed time and with great relief——! this (stupifying) relief continued for six or seven days. The pain then returned, and eventually the patient left the hospital little benefitted. (I should think exhausted, and miserable).

The fatal consequences of blood letting, especially when carried to such am extent as syncope, and the loss of blood in general, Copeland has well delineated in his medical dictionary, which for the sake of information may here find a place.

1. MORBID EFFECTS OF LOSS OF BLOOD.

This is a subject of greater practical importance, than has generally been attached to it, and one which I have had numerous occasions to contemplate particularly from the year 1816 to 1828—on epoch during which bloodletting was either more generally adopted, or carried further, than the nature of several diseases, and the constitution of many patients warranted.

The effects of copious depletions have been well illustrated by the experiments of Dr. Seeds. Dr. M. Hall (!) and others showing that several morbid states may be occasioned by copious losses of blood, or by too large a proportion of this fluid accumulating in the head, relatively to the rest of the body, as a consequence of much bloodletting; and M. Piorry has illustrated the same subject by numerous experiments.

2. MORBID EFFECTS OF LOSS OF BLOOD IN PERSONS NOT PREVIOUSLY AFFECTED WITH SERIOUS DISEASE.

The effects will naturally vary with the suddeness or rapidity of the loss, the extent to which it has preceeded, and the habit of the person, especially as regards vascular plethora, at the time when it occurred.

It is evident that an evacuation which has been rapid will have a more marked and serious effect, than the same quantity removed at several times or in a slower manner; and that when blood is discharged at intervals, a much larger quantity may be lost without producing the morbid effects often resulting, from the sudden loss of a smaller quantity; or, if they occur, they may be of a different kind from those which follow rapid discharges. The subjects therefore which chiefly require consideration are 1st the immediate effects of large loss of blood; 2d the more remote consequences; and 3d the slow and insidious effects supervening on repeated losses, of small or moderate extent.

A. *Of the immediate effects of copious bleeding.*

These are vertigo lapothemia or a sense of sinking, syncope, feeble and slow, or sometims quick fluttering pulse; slow or apparently suspended respiration for short periods, interrupted by deep sighs, eructations from and sometimes sickness of the stomach, a pale and cold perspiration countenance sighing and yawning, generally followed by a return of the pulse and consciousness; and if the hemorrhage is not renewed upon the restoration of the circulation, recovery soon follows. Where, however, the loss of blood is greater, the above symptoms are more marked; the syncope continues longer; the respiration which is carried on during this state, entirely by the diaphragm, is nearly imperceptible, until it suddenly returns at intervals with deep sighs; sickness and vomiting occur, and restore consciousness for a time, but the patient again relapses into syncope which is broken in a similar manner; and if the loss of blood has ceased, a more permanent restoration follows the sighing and sickness, and recovery slowly takes place.

When, however, the loss is still greater, either absolutely or relatively to the energies of tbe patient, or if it continue after the above effects supervene, the return of consciousness is often attended with some degree of delirium, a difficult stertorous breathing; dyspnoea; gasping for breath; occasionally retchings and discharge of the contents of the large bowels; an irregular intermittend, or imperceptible pulse; loss of animal heat; great restlessness, violent shuddering and great tremor and agitation, sometimes so violent as to shake the bed upon which the patient lies; a sense of sinking through

the floor; convulsions, or tetanic spasms, and contractions; terrible gasping for breath, and death.

Such is the common grouping of the morbid effects; but some of them are more marked than others. Thus when the loss of blood is very large, the patient may suddenly and unexpectly expire in one of syncope which occur, or he may sink more gradually, without any appearence of delirium or convulsion, sometimes with the faculties entire to the last. The former may occur after excessive bloodletting or hemorrhage, when the patient has been incautiously raised up, or when he has not been instantly placed in the recumbent posture when syncope occured; the latter has taken place unexpectedly when bloodletting has been carried too far or too often repeated, in the recumbent posture.

Convulsions are often the most marked effects, either of excessive hemorrhage, or of large and repeated venaescetion. This symptom is very common among delicate females particularly those of an epileptic or hysterical diatheses, and in children and young subjects.

Delirium is another prominent effect of excessive evacuation of the vascular system; but it usually presents something peculiar. The carotids are often rather full, the countenance is pale, and the head cool—symptoms indicating, with the character of the delirium, impaired vital energy of the brain. In some cases the delirium is associated with convulsions, and both may ultimately be followed by coma or lethargy. Delirium more rarely occurs in children or young subjects from excessive loss of blood, than in adult or advanced age; but coma is not infrequent in the former particulary when the loss of blood has occasioned convulsions, which in them usually terminate in coma.

(To be continued.)

ON THE HOMŒOPATHIC DOSES OF MEDICINE.

BY

Dr. G. Lingen.

(Concluded.)

The important fact that all organic functions depend on atomic action, is also beautifully exemplified in the vascular system.

Though the blood is the menstruum of nutrition, yet it only acts as such by means of the smallest vessels, viz: the capillaries. For in the arteries it remains arterial, and so little does it contribute to nutrition, that the membranes of the arteries themselves must be supplied with the nutritive element by those smaller vessels. In the veins the blood remains veinous, and they like-

wise are provided for by these smaller vessels. The latter then are the only channels, in which the arterial blood becomes changed partly into the substance or parenchyma of the organs and their secretions to which they (the capillaries) belong, or into veinous blood. Whether nutrition is accomplished by the actual deposit of the globules of the blood, or only by the exhalation of the capillaries, we must admit, that in either case the blood has to undergo atomic division into particles, the different constituents of which are attracted according to the different affinities, so that for instance the nerves form out of them nervous, and the muscles muscular substance, &c.

Now as the blood contains all the immediate constituents* of all the organs of the body, being at once bone, nerve and muscle, &c., in fluid state, it is the *simile universale* of all the organs of the human system, acting, as already shown, in atomic portions and by specific affinity, that is to say under the law of Homœopathy.

We now proceed to the Homœopathy of the nervous system, the main regulator of all animal functions. Here we find the materialist at a total loss, how to account for effects from causes altogether immaterial. Joy or grief excite instantaneously the lacrymal glands, and a flow of tears bursts forth, to neutralize the overpowering feeling, which consumes more of the lacrymal fluid in a few minutes, than otherwise would have been used in so many weeks. Passionate emotions often poison the milk of the nursing mother, so that a draught from what was, only a few seconds before, the fountain of youthful delight and strength, may now prove fatal, causing convulsions and death. The annals both of history and medicine abound with facts, which illustrate as well the pernicious as also the occasional beneficial effects of sudden mental emotions, so that we need not enlarge on this subject on the present occasion, taking it for granted that nobody will doubt the powerful effects of immaterial causes on the body. If then matter (the human system) can be affected by immaterial causes, why should it not react with matter, though this be applied in atomic fractions, but always in accordance with the general law of affinity? The minuteness of the dose can not be admitted as an objection, since spiritual doses, if we may say so,

* The few which have not as yet been discovered in the blood, escape the test propably only on account of the smallness of the quantity in which they are present.

altogether destitute of measure and weight, are active agencies and since chemistry promises even prompter reaction, the more minutely the substances employed are divided. The adversaries of Homœopathy have never advanced any reason why these small doses could not act, discharging the subject at once with a peremptory: "it cannot be!" The only possible objection which might be raised with some appearance of plausibility, is that the little dose might become neutralized by the coarser substances which constantly pervade every part of the body. This, however, is prevented in the first place by the dietetic injunctions of Homœopathy and secondly by the specific character of the remedy, which ensures its effects, as might be illustrated by the analogy between some phenomena of galvanism and the action of the nerves. The power of galvanism, says Berzelius, conquers the affinities of the bodies and severs the strongest chemical ties, and Shulz gives us a beautiful example of this, by showing the transmigration of chloride of soda through a solution of nitrate of silver, or that of the acid through an infusion of litmus, without producing, in both instances, the general changes, which under any other circumstance would take place, viz: precipitation and change of color,

If then by galvanic attraction the most powerful laws can become suspended or neutralized, why should nervous affinity not exert an equal sway over the Homœopathic atomic dose, so as to isolate it from other substances, since the great analogy between galvanism and nervous action is generally admitted? It is also known, that by means of electricity diseases can be transferred from one individual to another, even such diseases, of which no pathogenetic product is known, as for instance intermittent fever. This phenomenon can only be accounted for, by supposing that the electric fluid has become a conductor of the pathogenetic principle by having imbued the same in passing through the system, that is to say by mere contact and with the rapidity of lightning.

Are we then not justified to ask, why during the elaborate and careful process, by which the Homœopathic medicines are prepared, the media of dilution, which remain much longer in contact with the medicinal substances, should not in like manner become imbued with their properties? Experience, the only deciding authority to be appealed to in practical science, does confirm the efficacy of medicines so prepared and administered and even the old school practice, both regular and domestic, makes use of

similar means when applying water boiled with mercury, sulphur or camphor; for despite of the insolubility of these substances in water, the latter becomes impregnated with their properties.

The principal error, however, in judging of the effect of Homœopathic doses, consists in the false premisses, which our adversaries start from. They generally reason thus (if they reason at all): power is in the same ratio with the matter which it is coherent to, hence the extreme attenuation of the latter reduces the former to zero. However power may increase in the ratio of matter in hetrogeneous or mechanical action, it does so only to a very limitted extent, wherever there is specific action. We find that all chemical products are depending on definite proportions, that is to say, the respective quantities of the substances, to be mixed for the purpose of mutual saturation, are invariable; hence the reacting power not in the same ratio as the reacting means. We have already shown, that many of the specific phenomena of the animal organism require only atomic portions of matter and the greater or smaller quantity of the latter has no visible effect. This is the case for instance in the process of generation, where an atom of the sperma completes fructification as perfectly as any larger quantity. All specific diseases, such as the Itch, Syphilis, Plague, Small pox, Hydrophoby, &c., can be communicated to the organism by means of an atom of the respective contagious substances and the greater or smaller quantity of the infecting medium is quite immaterial, provided that it be not introduced into the system on different parts at one and the same time. The breath of an individual having the plague, a portion of the syphilitic matter covering only the point of a needle, a drop of the saliva of a rabbid dog may poison the most vigourus individual. Many contagious substances are carried about and spread by flies, an atom of the matter of the pestilential bubo may infect a bale of cotton of more than a hundred pounds weight, and communicate the disease to all who touch it. Water mixed by agitation with the air of chambers where there are patients with scarlet fever or small pox, shows by the different reaction with the salts of gold, silver and lead, or with tanine, that the contagia of these diseases have been precipitated into it. (Which by the way serves as a hint to nurses.)

The same remarks are applicable to the contagium of typhus, of the yellow fever, some inflammatory diseases (angina, puerperal fever), many exanthematous diseases (measels, varioloid,

small pox), some scorbutic affections, &c., so that the the schools have acknowledged two different kinds of contagia, viz: volatile and fixed. From this then it follows as an undisputed fact, that a great number of the most virolent and dangerons diseases, hithertho almost entirely intractable by medical art, may, and actually do originate and propagate by influence of atomic portions of contagious substances. Now if the system whilst in health and vigour can by impaired by fractions of noxious matter almost imponderable, why should it be impossible to restore it by equally minute and specific means, since the system, when enfeebled by disease, is certainly still more susceptible to foreign influence? Or must we believe, that it was the creator's intention, to subject us to ills, without providing means of alleviation at least equally as powerful as those of affliction? No, every pain has its Homœopathic antitode and in establishing this truth practically, Homœopathy is restoring the harmony of the world.

These few aphoristic observations we consider sufficient, to refute the a priori condemnation, pronounced on Homœopathy by its adversaries, in defiance of all analogy and in violation of true scientific and experimental spirit. We could easily enlarge the series of Homœopathic analogies, nay we would even pledge ourselves to prove, that there exists no science whatever, physical or moral, on which the bearing of Homœopathy could not be established. But preferring practical demonstration to theorizing, we content ourselves with having shown the chief relation of the Homœopathic law, and conclude with our Master's motto:

"Try the experiment, but try it faithfully and honestly!"

CASES OF HOMŒOPATHIC CURES.

BY

Dr. P. Bernstein.

"Without personal observation, medical science must decline—without recorded experiences it must at best be stationary—and it is only by a union of the two, that it can be rendered cumulative and traditive, and consequently progressive."

Richd. Bright M. D.

Case first. The patient, a gentleman of 40 years of age, had for a twelmonth been confined to his bed by lameness and stiffness. Without being aware of any other cause, than having taken cold, he was seized in the night with painful stiffnes in all his limbs, which under Alleopathic treatment increased to such a degree, that he lost the use of them, with the exception of the right arm, which he could lift slightly, and became entirely dependent on others, for any motion whatever. His face was of a livid hue, his cheeks collapsed, he had no appetite, the whole body was emaciated, his nights rest disturbed by pain, which increased with every change of weather, his bowels constipated. I gave him a dose of Nux vom.* after which he soon fell asleep and spent, for the first time, a quiet night and fell into a perspiration, which had been so much desired. The next morning his bowels were moved with more ease and he had greater command of his right arm. I watched the effect of this dose for several days, during which he was able, aided by his attendants, to leave his bed and walk a few steps, his sleep and appetite improved, and his bowels became regular. A second and third dose of the same remedy producing no further improvement, I administered mercury, which enabled him after the lapse of a few days, to raise himself in bed without aid, and to use his arms more freely. In order to convince myself, whether this amelioration might not still be owing to the Nux vom., previously given, I administered it again, but without effect, which induced me to continue the merc., repeating it every 5th day, until the patient was entirely restored.

Case second. A woman, affected in a similar way, and confined to her bed for six months, without receiving any benefit from Alleopathic means. Her appearance was cachectic, collapsed, her whole body emaciated—her joints swollen, particularly the elbows and knee, stinging pains in the swellings, and rending pains in the limbs. The swelling would frequently change from the left knee and right elbow, to the right knee and left elbow, and so

* The author considers it immaterial to mention, which of the 30 different gradations of each remedy he made use of, having been successful with every one of them.

she continued to lie motionless and in tears, with all her limbs drawn together.—Appetite and stool bad, sleep disturbed. The state of her mind, together with her physical suffering, induced me to decide upon Pulsatilla, which produced, after having been taken but a few hours, an agravation of her pains scarcely to be borne. At night it was thought necessary to send for me, but the servant did not succeed in finding my house. On my visit in the morning, however, I found my patient much releived by a copious perspiration produced by pulsatilla and continuing for 4 days, after which she was able to leave her bed and all the symptoms began to diminish gradually and finally subsided altogether after a second dose of Pulsatilla and one of Sulphur.

Case third. A man, 40 years of age, frequently suffering from cutaneous diseases and hemorrhoidal affections, was taken with fever and stitches in his chest which were removed under Alleopathic treatment by the liberal use of peruvian bark. Soon afterwards, however, he experienced the following symptoms: difficulty of breathing, particularly when lying on his back, a short hacking cough with transient stitches in his breast, heaviness in his head, the eyes dull, loss of appetite, wakefulness, weakness, oedematous swelling of the feet, particularly about the ankles, suppressed urine, of reddish color, constipation and flatulency. He was now treated, during several months, for hydrothorax, but without success, after which Homœopathy was resorted to. Several doses of Nux vom. relieved his breathing and the stitches in his breast in some measnre—he also rested better, but the remaining symptoms, particularly the obstinate constipation, began only to improve after lycopodium had been administered. The dose was repeated every fourth day, and in about 3 weeks the affection of the chest—the swelling of the feet had disappeared—he had recovered his strengh and the other functions became restored to their normal state.

He looked better than he ever had before, and the lycopodium being continued, only at longer intervals, he also got rid of his hemorrhoidal affections. I am inclined to consider this case as a combination of the effects of bark and those of the hemorrhoids, for both of which Nux vom. and lycopod. are antidotes. The difficulty of breathing, particularly when lying on the back, together with the oedematous swelling of the feet and suppression of urine, in this iustance, were not to be considered as pathognomic symptoms of Hydrothorax, but solely the effects of bark, which, being unknown to the physicians of the old school, must necessarily lead to a false diagnosis. A similar case likewise treated as Hydrothorax proved to me, how. even very able practitioners were deceived bv pathognomic symptoms.

Case fourth. A young man, of lymphatic constitution, having been treated twice for itch, with external applications, and as many times for Gonorrhea, was taken with pain in the perineum, close to the anus. Shame induced him to conceal his condition, until a painful tumor had formed, which prevented him from walking and which finally, (external means being of no avail) had to be lanced. The tumor was discharging, but there was, for a long time, no appearance of its healing up; debilitating diarrhoea, emaciation, cough and fever ensued, which would not yield to Cinchona and it was resolved to

call in Homœopathic aid. Though in this case, a complete fistula in ano, Causticum was indicated, I found it necessary, to commence the treatment with sulphur, as an anitdote both to Cinchona and Mercury, previonsly taken. It had a very happy effeet, for the patient slept better, the diarhoea and irritation in the rectum, the fever and cough began to subside and by repeating Sulphur every 6 days, he was able to leave his room after three weeks. Three doses of Silicea, after producing slight stitches in the fistula, caused it to close in another three weeks.

A similar case, but of much more agravated nature, was cured with sulphur only, and Silicea was in many instances found beneficial to bring abcesses to maturity and hasten their opening.—The same might be said of Lycopodium, which removed an exceedingly painful tumor, from under the chin of a boy, 3 years of age, in a very short time. L

Miscellaneous.

PROFESSOR JOHN P. HARRISON OF CINCINNATI COLLEGE AND HOMŒOPATHY.

Difficile est satyram non scribere.
Juvenal.

Long before the discovery of the complete skeleton of the Mammuth, individual bones, belonging to this giant of an antidiluvian world, were occasionally dug out, at the banks of the Ohio. They, of course, attracted the attention of our natural philosophers, and various were the opinions and speculations to which they gave rise; some were correct, others erroneous, but all corresponded with the scientific views or acquirements of the respective investigator. Amongst other explanations, we also find on record, that some learned Frenchman pronouuced these bones, in good honest faith, *to be the jaw-bones of the fallen angels!*

Now for the moral of the story. It appears, the gentleman, whose name is at the head of this article, dug out of the rubbish of some periodicals and scurrilous publications, sundry detached fragments of Homœopathy, and though he did not even learn the correct spelling of its name,* he does not hesitate to consign it to the category of relics, left behind by some fallen angel, or to the "revelations and visions, as divine as the second sight in Scotland." Bearing in mind, that the professor offers this opinion to his pupils and to the public at large in an "*Essay on Medical Experience*,"† we naturally expect, that he carry the conviction of experience with him, when

* He spells it wrony throughout the whole piece, though he has copied the greek derivation of the term!

† See John P. Harrison's M. D. Essays and Lectures on Medical Subjects.

condemning Homœopathy; but, *mirabile dictu!* not a single item, founded on facts or sound reasoning, do we find in all he says in relation to his subject.

All he could possibly have experienced, must be reduced to his own conviction, that the truth of Homœopathy, which has already shaken the spurious laurels from the head of many a Pseudo-Asculapian, must finally drive the master of materia medica from his chair and compel him to begin his study anew. What he offers by way, or instead, of argument, we mention with great reluctance; because it is so totally unworthy of a public teacher, a scholar and a republican, so regardless of all courtesy, observed in literature, that the stamp of barbarianism cannot be mistaken; but nevertheless, we cannot pass it over, without some remarks in defence of Homœopathy and of the land of its origin. To Professor Harrison of Cincinnati College, Germany is nothing but "the land of the indefinite and abstract," and "germanic ideality and metaphysical vapouring" are epithets, which he dwells on with so much emphasis, that it is evident: the german origin of Homœopathy was alone sufficient, to condemn it before his forum. How narrow minded and illiberal to pause at, or ask for, the national color of truth! However, we would ask, how is it, that from "this land of the indefinite and abstract" so many of the most practical and useful inventions have sprung, or must we remind the professor of materia medica, that even the first vegetable alkaloids were discovered by a German! Granted that Paracelsus was censurable for his excentricities, what has Professor Harrison to boast of, at all to be compared to the important additions* for which materia medica is indebted to this "sublime son of fancy and folly," as he deems proper to style him!

The ways of genius diverge from the easy paths of rusty routine, and men's minds, like their bodies, are not all made out of material of the same quality; some being capable of a degree of expansion, which would prove destructive to others. So if Homœopathy appears to the capacity of some individual "a reverie," does it follow, that it actually deserves that name? Certainly not, for the very existence of this continent was considered "a reverie" and a very wicked and chimerical one too! Perhaps then, the Professor, at some farther period, when better acquainted with Homœopathy, may, in like manner, change his opinion of it, as happened with the famous speculation on the Ohio bones. His error, moreover, is much more excusable than that of the Frenchman, who had the advantage of ocular inspection, whilst the former relied only on representation, or rather misrepresentation, and being thus led astray by false traditional authority, gives another example of the fallacy of *medical experience* on which he addreses his pupils so eloquently!

* Paracelsus introduced most of the mineral substances into materia medica.

CASES FROM PRACTICE.

BY C. NEIDHARD, M. D.

Homœopathy is the *direct* method and Allœopathy the *indirect.* Of direct methods there can be only one, of the indirect many, as the antiphlogistic, resolvent, revulsive, deobstruent, &c.

By the direct method an impulse is given to the specific reaction of the healing power, so that the disease is not only attacked in its *effects upon the different organs and systems*, as with the indirect method, but in its *origin* and *seat*, whereby it is prevented from passing through its different stages. *Why should this not be possible? Why should we not be able to find agents having a direct dynamical effect upon the specific reaction of the healing power?* There is no reasonable ground to doubt it!

With Homœopathy experience has already strongly corroborated this. To pretend to deny this, shows either ignorance, stubborness, indolence, or dread of new systems.

C. A. ESCHENMAYER, M. D.
Professor of Medicine at the University of Tübingen.

Case first. Mrs. D., of fair complexion, (seven years ago, immediately after her confinement, by exposure to cold,) became subject to *rheumatic pains*, which have with occassional intermission ever continued since. She had taken many remedies, without however deriving any permanent benefit from them.

The Tinct. Colchicum autumnal., which was the last medicine prescribed, appeared to have done her more good than any thing else. She had finally given up all hope of ever being restored to health.

Symptoms: A dull heavy pain, soreness and stiffness in the lumbar region, aggravated or excited by bending the body backward; a similar pain and affection but less violent between the shoulders and back part of the neck; flying pains in different parts of the body; she feels suddenly on a small spot on the head a soreness, which as suddenly disappears; she feels almost entirely free from pain in cold clear weather, but the least exposure to a

draught of air, as well as damp weather produces the pains. The least exercise causes profuse perspiration, which, however, does not give any relief. The pain in the lower part of the back is the oldest and most constant symptom, which is also present in clear cold weather, when the other symptoms are better. These symptoms have every year increased in violence. In other respect perfectly healthy.

On my first visit to her, on the 5th of March, 1838, she received Nux vomica 6. gtt. 1., upon which the next day she woke up the first time for many years without pain in the back, the other symptoms were, however, aggravated until the evening of the same day, when a general amelioration ensued. She continued better until the 10th, when by exposure to a draught of air all her symptoms reappeared. Her diet was now more strictly regulated and daily cold ablutions recommended. After a due consideration of her symptoms she received calcarea carbon. 3. gtt. 1—4 every other day in the evening for several months. Under the influence of this medicine she gradually became better; it particularly diminished the pain and stiffness in the back; on the stiffness of the neck, the soreness to the touch, it seemed to have less effect: on which account Causticum 3. was prescribed, repeated doses of which entirely removed these last symptoms. After this Rhus 3. gtt. 1. every 2 days was prescribed for 3—4 weeks which removed all symptoms with the exception of a slight pain in the lumbar region. No medicine expressing this characteristic symptom better than Calc. carbon.; it was again administered to her in the tincture à 3—6 drops, but only every 8—14 days, or whenever the symptom showed itself; and by pursuing this course for some months; she, finally, got entirely rid of this troublesome disorder.

II. Mr. R., 38 years of age, of dark complexion, applied to me on the 29th of September, 1837; complaining of the following symptoms, to which he had been subject for the last five months:

Pain and soreness under the ankle of the left foot, together with soreness, slight swelling and redness of the large toe of the same foot; particularly painful in walking, which he can only do with the greatest difficulty; pain also in the sole of the foot; and alternately in the heel with redness and swelling. Soreness along the clavicle, and a dull pain in the lower part of the back, chiefly at night. These symptoms accompany great sensibility to the changes of temperature, which always cause a swelling of

the testicles; the passage of urine becomes painful and frequent, and is accompanied by a discharge of a quantity of sand; also costiveness.

On the 1st of October, he received 8 doses of Bryonia 18. gtt. 1., one to be taken every 12 hours. After the first powders the pain in the foot and other symptoms were violently aggravated. He passed off greater quantities of calculous deposition than ever before; and the sediment, which had been whitish before, was now turned into a reddish colour. In 4 days, the aggravation however gradually subsided; and by continuing the bryonia in the same dilution every day up to the 12th October—he gradually became better; so that he could walk now without diffiulty, and without much pain. The swelling of the testicles had also disappeared, as well as the pain he had during the passage of the urine, and the other urinary symptoms. He was, however, still costive and very nervous, on which account he received Nux vomica 12. gtt. 1., alternately with Bryonia 18. every other day, for several weeks. On the 3d of Nov., his health (with the exception of a slight soreness on the sole of the left foot, particularly in walking,) was entirely re-established. The Homœopathic medicines produced during their operation great cheerfulness of mind: to which he had long been a stranger.

For the peculiar soreness on the sole of the foot Lycopod. Pulsat. Sulph. Led. Rhs. Mangan. Arnica. Psor. were prescribed to him yet, in different dilutions, without this symptom being sensibly diminished.

By using daily cold ablutions of the feet during the summer months, and by taking occassioually a dose of Phosphor 12.; this last symptom also, finally, yielded.

I am aware that the application of cold water and Phosphor *at the same time* is liable to some objection; as no certain indication can be derived from it for the benefit of the Hom. materia medica, it being impossible here to decide, whether the application of the cold water or the phosphor contributed more for the final removal of this soreness. But every Hom. physician has met with similar cases, where nothing appears to have an effect, in removing such isolated symptoms. In such *extreme* cases, and only in such, we are, in the present state of Homœopathy, justified in using all such means in our power.

This patient remained entirely free from the pain and soreness &c. of his foot for five months; but after the lapse of that

time he was attacked again with a violent pain in the back in the region of the kidney, and discharged great quantities of whitish sand with the urine: his testicles also became swollen again. This affection was finally entirely removed by 8 doses of Sassaparilla 6. gtt. 1., taken every other day, and afterwards Sulphur 0. gtt. 3. for several weeks.

III. J. O., an Irishman, 37 years of age, had for some time been aflicted with *Rheumatism*, for which he had taken different medicines without obtaining any relief. He complained of a dull aching pain and stiffness from the left shoulder-joint down to the elbow-joint, with severe pains in the finger-joints. Dull pains also in the joints of the knees and feet, particularly the left foot, so that he is unable to stand on it. All these pains are aggravated during rest, and in the night on getting warm in bed; when he always perspires profusely: a general stiffness in the body after remaining in the sitting posture for some time. The pains are diminished by taking exercise, but he has been unable to work for some time. He is also inclined to costiveness, and feels a sickness of stomach after dinner. The symptoms being very characteristic for Rhus, he received accordingly 10 doses of it, of the 3d dilution, from gtt. 1—6., to be taken every other night, with the injunction to discontinue the powders as soon as the pains, &c. would cease. Fourteen days afterwards, he returned with the message, that his pains had been gradually disappearing, and that he felt now entirely free from pains, not finding it necessary to take more than 5 powders. He suffered now, only from constipation, felt an oppression in the stomach, and perspired much in the night: Nux vom. 1. gtt. 1;—4. doses, every day one, restored him to perfect health. He remained entirely free from his disease.

IV. Mr. H., paper manufacturer, 47 years of age, has been subject to *rheumatic pains* for 4 months for which he had employed various domestic remedies without obtaining any permanent relief. He had also taken on the advise of a physician, the tinct. of Colchicum (almost a panacea, in our country, for rheumatism,) with the same result; and lately washed his whole body with a solution of Cayenne pepper, which, however, only aggravated the pains.

The disease commenced with shooting pains in the legs, particularly the left leg with slight swelling up to the hip; great weakness of the ankle-joint; swelling, redness and stiffness in the left arm, with a dull pain in the arm and finger-joints, particularly

on first moving, or suddenly raising them after rest; stiffness and pain in the back of the neck; he has also chills in the evening and slight fever in the morning with thirst, headache, want of appetite; the pains are always worse in the night on getting warm in bed, sensibility to the changes of weather.

Two doses of Aconit. 4. taken daily, and Rhus 6. every 4 days, perfectly cured him in 14 days.

Seven cases very similar to the two last occurring last fall and winter, were all removed in a short time by a few doses of Rhus toxicod. 18. 12. & 6.

V. The following case is remarkable, on account of the extreme violence, with which even the smallest doses acted, and may serve to convince us, that no certain rules can as yet be laid down with regard to the doses of Hom. medicines. The adaptation of the dose to the sensibility of the constitution of tne patient must for the present remain our sole guide.

Mrs. * * *, 45 years of age, of leukophlegmatic habit of body and cachectic constitution, became, about 4 years ago, an attack of bilious fever; for the cure of which her physician prescribed large doses of Calomel; immediately after which her present disease showed itself with the following symptoms: Dull pains in the first phalanges of the fingers, particularly the left hand; pain in the right foot below the ankle, with a drawing and tickling sensation from the large toe upwards: this pain often suddenly passes to the head of the os humeri left side; a sticking pain in the soles of the feet on motion; on awakening in the night she feels violent cramps and stiffness all over the body, and pains in the bones of the feet and fingers; by pressing on any part of the body she becomes subject to eructations, constituting a perfect *tympanites*, after which she always feels for some time entirely free from pain; urine deposites a whitish and sometimes a reddish sediment; costiveness; feels better in warm weather.

The medicines she received were the following: Calcarea; Sulphur; Lycopod. Pulsat.; Carb. anim.; Graphit. Sepia; as one or the other group of symptoms predominated. Carb. anim. and Graphit. Pulsat. appeared to have most effect in combatting the cramps, stiffness and pain in the fingers and feet; whilst Lycopod, Sepia, Sulph. diminished the flatulency and eructations. All these medicines were exhibited in the 30th dilution glob. 1., and even this small dose always produced an aggravation for a whole day. Her sensitiveness to the smallest doses was so great, that

Sepia 18. glob. 1. produced violent colic pains, diarrhoea and swelling of the whole body for 4 days until reaction took place. On repeating Sepia 30. glob. 1. the same violent symptoms returned and continued for several days, but were also superseded by the same mitigation of the disease. I now dissolved one globule of the 35th dilution of Sepia in a large tumbler of water, of which she received half a teasponful in the evening. During the night no effect was felt, but all next day the swelling of the stomach and abdomen. the colic pains, &c. returned as before, though with less violence and shorter continuance. In order to diminish this extreme sensibility I interposed some doses of Aurum and Nux vomica, upon which these primary effects of Sepia became less and iess violent, and the spasms and stiffness in the feet and fingers, as well as the flatulency were gradually disappearing, and she felt for some months entirely free from pain. After discontinuing the medicines for some time, the pain in the finger-joint, particularly in the earfinger of the left hand together with the symptoms of tympanites, showed themselves again, on which account the treatment is yet continued. The feet remained entirely free from pain.

VI. S., 19 years of age, seamstress, has been subject to *leucorrhoea* for three years, which has every year become worse. Fortunately she had taken no Allœopathic medicine against her disease. The discharge is thick, abundant and debilitating; she feels a sensation of *burning* in the *lumbar region* with *weakness* and *lameness* in these parts, sudden flushes of heat, heaviness and throbbing pain in the region of the the heart, constipation, sour eructations, with a feeling of heaviness and heat in the eyes; her catamenia are also too abundant. China 12. glob. 2. produced no perceptible effect, but Phosphorus 6. gtt. 1. every other day perfectly cured her in 3 weeks, and she afterwards alledged that she had never felt better in her life. She remains entirely free from her disease, although she has now taken no medicine for 8 months.

VII. *Prolapsus uteri et ani.* Mrs. L., of fair complexion, 48 years of age, the widow of an English physician from London, is afflicted with a very complicated disorder, which dates its commencement 8 years ago, after difficult parturition. Symptoms: On the descent of the womb there is a slight leucorrhœal discharge but no acute pain; it is always worse 2 hours after dinner and in the night, when particularly she feels a weight and bearing down,

but much less in walking and standing; in the evening she feels a kind of respite, but in the morning she is distressed in the highest degree. The prolapsus ani occurrs at every stool; she is inclined to costiveness; great weakness and heaviness of the lower extremities, want of appetite, feeling of craving in the stomach, great nervous sensibility. She had worn no pessary nor taken any thing against this disorder, except occassionally small doses of Sulphur mixed with some Magnesia and Cremor tartar, without however deriving much benefit.

Nux vomica 12. gtt. 1. produced an excellent but only transient effect, the same was the case with the tinct. Arnicae gtt. 30. in a pint of water, some of which I ordered her to inject into the vagina morning and evening. No medicine appearing to me however to answer all the indications so well as Sepia, she received it in the 6th dilution glob. 1. every other day, the effect of this medicine was so decided that in a few weeks she considered herself perfectly cured. She now went into the country, continuing to take the Sepia there for some time. Several months afterwards when I heard from her again, her health was reported to be improving. Whether a relapse took place I am not prepared to say, as I am without information for the last 8 months.

The two last cases may tend to show, that even in inveterate cases, if not previously maltreated by improper medicines or too large doses, Homœopathy will give prompt relief.

VIII. Miss R., 29 years of age, of scrophulous habit, has been subject for several years to a swelling and induration of the parotid gland on the left side, with stiffness and pain on the back of the neck and shoulderblade. She had formerly frequent gatherings in the gland, which being improperly treated, it became gradually indurated. She feels always worse in the afternoon and better after perspiration and in warm weather. She had taken Allœopathic medicines for a whole year for this complaint, without deriving the least benefit from them. She was perfectly cured in the space of 5 months, by repeated doses of Calcarea, Carb. animal. and Mercury.

IX. Mrs. S., of light complexion, consulted me on the 1st of May, 1838, on account of a disease of the throat which she had for several years, consisting of an enlargement of the uvula, feeling like a lump in the throat and which appeared to her to assume gradually a larger size, at the same time she was very hoarse and occassionally felt a tickling sensation with some pain on swallow-

ng; the glands of the neck are also sometimes swollen, and she had a stiffness in it and also in the back of the neck, particularly in damp weather; but little appetite. Sulphur 0. and Nux vomica 6. in repeated doses, every 4 days a dose, diminished the disease. On the 24th of August, she received Plumbum metallicum 6. several drops every 3 days, until the 8th of Sept., and from that period Plumb. met. 3. gtt. 1. daily till Octob. 23d, which perfectly cured her, the disease gradually diminishing under the influence of this medicine. She felt no aggravation from the Plumb. met. 3. except after the first doses for a few hours a pain in the stomach, and a feeling of soreness in the palatine region with the appearance of some excoriation, which however soon disappeared.

X. A case of *chronic swelling of the tonsils* in a young Irish girl was treated Allœopathically for a year without success. The physician proposed an operation for its radical cure, which was objected to by the girl, who soon after applied to me. Two doses of Iodium 1. every 3 days restored her to perfect health.

XI. A boy of 15 complained for 2 months of a *heaviness and giddiness in the head*, dimness of sight, which commences in the morning every 4th day, accompanied twice a day by vomiting of mucus somewhat streaked with blood after violent straining, which also affects the hearing. The eating of butter and fat meat, as well as hot bread has a tendency to bring on the disease. Thinks the disease was caused by eating hot bread.

Pulsatilla 6. 4 doses, one every 3d day gave perfect relief.

XII. A lady of sanguine temperament was affected in the night after exposure to cold with very violent throbbing pain on the top of the head, extending to the eyes and increased on moving them; the face is much flushed and swollen, beating of the carotids, head painful to the slightest touch. The pain had lasted for 8 hours without intermission, and Acon. bellad. given at intervals of 4 hours, brought no relief. Cocculus 18. glob. 1. and produced lasting relief in a few minutes.

XIII. *Neuralgia.* Miss ——, 27 years of age, of short stature, dark complexion and choleric temperament, besides the common diseases of children, has been subject also to fever and ague. Being possessed of superior mental faculties and a highly imaginative turn of mind she has been in the habit of reading often for a whole night, novels, histories, and all sorts of miscellaneous literature, Owing to this h[illegible] strengthened by her

natural predisposition she has been subject from her girlhood to determinations of blood to the head, which finally, about 8 years ago, settled into a violent hemicrania, occuring periodically every two months. Five years ago, soon after having some teeth extracted and others set and plugged, she was for the first time attacked with tic doloureux on the left cheek, characterized by a vibration like twitches of many small strings as she expressed herself; at the same time the pain darted to the throat, eyes, and all over tho head, the face becomes suddenly swollen, and as suddenly resumes its natural colour, there is an extreme paleness of the face, the eyes are deeply sunk in their sockets, she can open the eyelids only with difficulty, feeling of soreness in the balls of the eye, strabismus, the gums are swollen, beating and aching of the heart, after the attack she feels generally a dull aching pain in the back of the head, with a feeling like a board pressed over the eyes and nose; her digestive organs are also very much debilitated, she cannot eat the smallest piece of meat without deranging them, she has a sour and sometimes a bitter taste in the mouth after eating, want of appetite, costiveness, heartburn, inclination to vomit, she has the feeling as of a lump in the throat, and her mouth is extremely dry and parched; her mind is constantly wandering and confused, and she cannot fix her ideas long on one subject. The lady has been accustomed to live constantly in a highly perfumed atmosphere, and has always drunk very strong tea; her dreams are frightful, and even if free from her disease, she generally wakes up with a slight headache in the morning; catamenia normal.

Formerly her attacks occurred only every 4—5 months, but of late she has them much more frequently; the pain is so violent, that it almost deprives her of reason, and constantly day and night with hardly a few moments intermission. After having reached its acme, it ceases at once. It is remarkable, that generally when her general health is best, she always has an attack. I observed the same in other cases of neuralgia and also in epilepsy.

During the attack her intellectual functions are singularly bright whereas afterwards they are in a state of apathy: It seems as if nature had thus made an effort to restore an equilibrium which she is afterwards too weak to sustain.

Notwithstanding the various remedies several eminent physicians had prescribed for her, the disease increased every year in

frequency, and violence. The largest doses of laudanum and morphin were often insufficient to give the slightest relief. She at one time took as much as a quart of brandy. To these narcotics we must certainly ascribe in a great measure her deranged digestion, the dry and parched state of her fauces, and the total prostration of strength after every attack. She had also taken large quantities of the carbonate of iron and sulphur.

Without entering into a minute detail of the treatment pursued, it will be sufficient to mention, that Arsenic and Phosphorus in different dilut. given alternately for several months, after having several times at first produced in their primary operation a slight attack, either prevented its recurrence, or arrested it at its onset. Lycopodium and Nux moschata cured the dyspeptic symptoms and Baryt carbon. and Alumina the headache, which was more frequent after the cessation of the neuralgia. Besides these remedies Belladonna, Nux vomica and Cicuta were prescribed, yet with little benefit.

After being free from an attack for almost a year she commenced indulging again in coffee, &c., and in consequence again had a slight paroxysm, which, however, was soon subdued by the same remedies. Since that time, now above 8 months, her disease has not returned, and her general health has greatly improved.

XIV. *Neuralgia.* Mrs. ——, 29 years of age, of fair complexion, has been liable every summer for several years, to a neuralgic affection with the following symptoms: a rending pain from the left ear upwards towards the temple and downwards the whole left side to the lower jaw; at the same time a singular tickling and prickling sensation in these parts, so that notwithstanding her pain, she is hardly able to keep from laughing. The pain commences in the evening, is increased by warm drinks and after meals, particularly after dinner. She was mostly subject to it for the greater part of the summer, and it has every year become more violent. The glands of the neck are also swollen sometimes, and there is a constant eruption of large blotches on the face, neck and arms, severely itching at night, and which she was in the habit of repelling by the application of Sulphur ointment, after which the neuralgia always made its appearance. She was very much astonished when informed of the injurious consequences of this proceeding, and was easily persuaded to adopt Homœopathic treatment.

The selection of the proper remedy in this case could not be mistaken, all the symptoms being highly characteristic for Zinc. Accordingly 3 grains of the 3d dilut. of this medicine were dissolved in 8 spoonfulls of water, one spoonfull to be taken on the least premonitory symptom of the disease. The first doses produced a violent aggravation of the symptoms, but on continuing the medicine they gradually subsided and she was entirely cured of her disease, before she had taken all the medicine. For the last 12 months no relapse has occured.

The susceptibility of this patient to medicinal impressions was very great. Mercur. sol. 2. gr. ½ for instance prescribed at a subsequent period for her cutaneous affection, produced the most violent diarrhoea, such as she never had experienced from the largest doses of a purgative medicine.

The extreme nervous sensibility and the numerous nervous affections so common among the ladies of this city, are certainly in a great measure to be ascribed to the often total neglect of healthy exercise, to the daily use of coffee, and particularly to enervating use of green tea, and much less to the influence of climate than is often imagined.

XV. *Neuralgia.* M. A., 36 years of age, had the itch in his childhood, but has generally enjoyed excellent health. He has, however, been accustomed to partake of highly seasoned food, wine, coffee, &c., and of late has been engaged in literary labours, which were frequently prolonged by him during the whole night. His system of late has also shown great sensibility to the impressions of cold.

The attack had existed already for some months before I was consulted. It occurs chiefly at night suddenly, particularly when exposed to a draught of air; the pain, which is of a drawing kind, commences at the lower jaw where it passes to and fro up to the infraorbitary foramen on the right side, shoots up to the ear and extends thence to the forehead of the same side; in the lower jaw and forehead he feels the pain most violent; it is oftener produced by cold than warm drinks; the pain is of the most excruciating kind, but passes off as suddenly as it appears, when it leaves him in a state of great prostration. Teeth quite sound, costiveness.

Two remedies appeared to be chiefly indicated in this case; viz: Nux vomica and Phosphorus. Nux vom. 3 in water every 6 hours for several days, and afterwards twice a day, had the

effect of producing an entire cessation of the violent attacks. The pain became more constant but could now be endured. Phosphorus 24 & 6 exhibited afterwards for several weeks morning and evening finished the cure. After each dose of Phosph. particularly the first doses a slight attack of the disease was experienced.

CASE XVI. *Dyspepsia.* The following case is given in the patient's own words (who is about 30 years of age, of light complexion, formerly a student of medicine and now a very estimable clergyman) adressed in a letter to me, in Sept. of last year.

"About 7 years ago, I lived on the banks of a river, and in the fall took a severe intermittent fever. My disease was soon checked, but during my convalescence I was not careful in my diet and regimen and took a relapse. My first paroxysm was accompanied with much gastric irritation. This Dr. H— seemed to think was produced or rather aggravated by a dose of Epsom salts I had taken the day before. The vomiting which evinced gastric irritation was checked by the neutral mixture. I soon got better. The Dr. told me, I must live for a while upon very light diet or I would have dyspepsia. I disregarded his advice —ate heartily of gross food, and immediately had a relapse of my chills and fever. My stomach was so irritable as to preclude the use of Quinine, which I had tried, I took Fowlers solution with an occasional blue pill, &c., but without effect. After suffering considerably for several weeks having *great* depression of spirits and severe night sweats, my malady at length yielded to epidermical applications of Quinine. But my chills left me with severe dyspepsia. Almost every thing disagreed with me I had pains in the bowels—mucous discharges—flatulence—low spirits, &c. Of these I was getting better, when I lost my brother. Grief and loss of sleep during his illness aggravated my disease. Afterwards I suffered severely for about 3 years. During this time I could eat no meat and lived for the most part on bread and butter with a little weak coffee. Sometimes I was costive but for the most part my stools were loose and mucous. I tried various remedies and I rode much on horseback. This I found always increased the irritation of the alimentary canal. I was at Bedford and Saratoga Springs and the sea shore. When every thing else disagreed with me, I could eat peaches ad libitum. They seemed always to do me good. For the last three years I have been pretty well. But there are certain things which always injure me. Violent exercise—especially riding a rough

horse, seems to irritate my stomach and produces afterwards depression of spirits. Reading and writing irritate my nervous system very much and are followed by sighing, lassitude and depression of spirits, &c. &c. I seldom eat meat—avoid the use of coffee and find that a vegetable and farinaceous diet agrees with me best. I live regularly in every way—avoiding every thing moral and physical that I have found injurious to me. I practice ablution daily with cold water from head to foot. I suffer no pain, and all I want is to be able to read, write and take exercise as other people. At this time owing to too much walking, to which I have not been accustomed for sometime, my stomach is somewhat irritable, this is evinced by distention, flatulence, &c."

The remedies which appeared in this case to be indicated were Nux vom. and Calcarea carbonica. Both expressed his characteristic symptoms most perfectly. Nux vom., however, which was given in different dilutions for some weeks appeared to make no particular impression. But the Tinct. Calcar. carbon., of which one or several drops were taken daily or every other day by him had such a happy effect, that after continuing the medicine for two months, he considered himself almost cured. He could now write, read and take exercise without producing any gastric irritation or other unpleasant symptoms. The Calcarea carbon,. however, during its primary operation had at first several times increased his symptoms, and brought on some new ones, as for instance, a toothache on the right side of the upperjaw, with slight swelling and soreness of the gums and slight fulness of the head. These soon disappeared. He now feeling so well, I advised him to discontinue the medicine for some time. After having omitted taking Calcarea for 8 days he was attacked without any perceptible cause with a slight fever intermitting at night with hardly any chills, heat without thirst and afterwards very slight perspiration in the morning, besides had aching of the bones, diminished urinary secretion and felt generally very weak during the day.

Remembering the observation of Hahneman, that in the course of Homœopathic treatment, old complaints to which patients have been previously subject sometimes return and considering the fever as critical, or the precursor of a new attack of his disease, I did nothing for it. After having had it for nine days he took one evening against my advise a glass of warm lemonade, bathed his feet in warm water and went to bed to perspire. He

perspired freely and the fever left him, but decided symptoms of violent gastric irritation began to develop themselves the succeeding morning; his mouth and fauces, to the stomach feels sore, so that he could swallow only liquids, the inside of the lip very sore, right side of fauces slightly inflamed, there is a constant running of saliva from his mouth. Great prostration of strength.

The patient feeling now somewhat alarmed called in, on the earnest solicitation of his friends, Allœopathic aid, by which after long and tedious treatment he was left in a state of great debility. Some time afterwards, however, I saw him much improved in health, and I have no doubt, that the fever, which 7 years ago, had been suppressed by injudicious treatment was here critical and formed the termination of his disease. There is at least some probability that he will remain free from it, unless the debilitating Allœopathic treatment has again laid the germ for new diseases.

XVII. *Herpes squamosa.* Mrs— of fair complexion had for several years suffered from dyspepsia, which yielded to Allœopathic treatment. One of the remedies prescribed was the shower-bath, which produced an herpetic eruption on the vertex and forehead and other parts of the body. She had taken several remedies for this eruption and had also used low diet for many months, which diminished it considerably, but as soon as she relinquished the treatment and returned to her accustomed manner of living, it always returned.

On my first visit to her I noted down the following symptoms: A very bright red and scurfy eruption on the upper part of the head, on the right side a red ring one inch wide; the cuticle has the same appearance in different other parts of the body, from which a scurf is detached occassionally; at the same time, she complains of fulness in the stomach after dinner, tunica conjunctiva slightly inflamed, bitter taste in the mouth, sour eructations; feels best in the morning and evening, and worst in the middle of the day, all other functions are regularly performed.

Graphites and afterwards Sepia, taken for several weeks produced no decided change in the tetter, as was also the case with Clematis erecta, except that it diminished its peculiar redness.

In consideration of the previously existing and still occassionally prevailing dyspepsia, the sour eructations, &c., and particularly the peculiar scaly bright red aspect of the herpes, &c. so characteristic of the cutaneous affections produced by Mag-

nesia carbonica I prescribed this latter remedy on Nov. 1st, 1838, at first the Tinct. and afterwards gr. 5 morning and evening (of the original preparation triturated for several hours) gradually increasing the dose to 10 gr. (a great number of cutaneous diseases coming accidentally under my care, I soon discovered that, although several were cured by very small doses, yet for the safe and speedy cure of the majority, larges doses were required, and that in fact a somewhat constant impression had to be kept up by larger doses of Homœopathic specific medicines in order to displace these diseases and effect their radical cure, an experience, which I believe corresponds with that of other Homœopathic practitioners. During the operation of this medicine, the eruption which was previously confined to the top of the head, brought it out over the whole of the hairy scalp particularly behind the ears, and in fact more or less all over the body, and caused intolerable itching. The bright redness soon gave place to one of a paler colour and the scales fell off in great abundance. By continuing the medicine until January the eruption finally entirely disappeared. The dyspeptic symptoms had also left her, and her whole external appearance gave evidence of a greatly improved state of health.

XVIII. Miss— is afflicted with *eczema solare* every summer by exposure to the sun. This affection is characterized by numerous red pimples on the forehead but particularly on the cheeks, and around the mouth, with itching. The whole face is at times so red, that she is induced to shun society. Acid. muriaticum 18. gtt. 1 every other day given from Jun. 25. '38 to Jul. 9th and from that period to Sept. 1838. Acid. mur. 6 removed it completely.

XIX. A young man, 17 years of age, has been subject for three years every summer to a dark eruption of the cuticle, which shows itself for the most part over the region of the stomach and abdomen, producing a discoloration of the cuticle, with many points in it of a deeper hue. It is always accompanied by very severe itching, particularly troublesome during the greatest heat in summer. The parts affected perspire much and the external cuticle peels off after some time, particularly after taking a bath when, it may be seen swimming on the water. The same process takes place on the back and the arms. If the eruption is repelled from the skin (which occurs occassionally when the weather suddenly becomes colder) he feels a gnawing

and creeping pain in that part. This affection was perfectly cured by the Tinct. Sulphur. several drops of which were taken daily from Jun. 3. to Aug. 1th.—Several cutaneous affections in external appearance similar to the above, have been entirely removed by repeated doses of Sulphur and Psor.

XX. *A blennorrhoea ventriculi et intestinorum*, in the person of an assistant in a drug store of a very relaxed fibre and blennorrhoeic constitution was cured by Ratanhia 18 gtt. 1 every 3 days taken for several months.

Characteristic symptoms: constant slimy taste in the mouth particularly in the morning, feeling of soreness in the stomach on pressure, and swelling of the same, want of appetite, feeling as if a belt compressed the stomach, discharges of mucus of a yellowish white colour occassionally tinged with blood, flatulency, emaciation, &c. &c.

XXI. *Hydrocephalus chronicus.* A boy, 5 years of age, with a large head and scrophulous habit, about a year ago, was affected with the measles, which were cured by Pulsatilla, after which he had an attack of Hydrocephalus, which was soon removed by a few doses of Belladonna. During several months of last summer he laboured under a very violent attack of the whooping cough, and before this was entirely removed by Drosera and Nux vom. his hydrocephalic symptoms returned in a much more violent degree, with the following symptoms; the attack was ushered in with a kind of remitting fever, a chilliness generally commenced at 4 o'clock in the afternoon, followed by heat and perspiration on the head, whilst the feet and arms remained dry; the patient lay with his hand on the back of the head in bed, with his eyes half opened, suddenly screaming out in his slumber, his face is pale and anxious and he frequently picks his nose, complains of violent pain in the back of the head, painful to the touch, with great heat in it, dilatation of the pupils, tenderness of the abdomen, costiveness, he walks with great difficulty and feels pain in the kneejoint and feet, pulse very irregular; in the morning there is a remission; he is also still troubled with a dry spasmodic cough, brought on by the least exercise, and at night, with tickling in the throat, &c.

Whoever has witnessed similar cases will admit with me, that the patient was in a most critical condition, and that relief must forthwith be obtained, if a favourable issue of the case were possible.

Belladonna and Helleborus niger in different dilutions were employed without the slightest beneficial effect.

Considering that the patient still laboured under hooping cough and the specific effect of Arnica in this disease as well as effusious of serum and other extravasations, gtt. 6 of the Tinct. arnic. were mixed on the 11. of Decemb. in half a tumbler full of water, and a spoonfull of the mixture was given to him every 4 hours.

In 8 hours from the commencement of this treatment, symptoms of decided improvement were already displayed; all his symptoms became less violent, an eruption appeared on the top of the nose and large quantities of ichorous matter were ejected from both nostrils: on the index finger of the left hand there appeared also a panaritium. The Tinct. Arnicae was continued in the same dose.

Dec. 13. postules filled with matter appeared on the helix and antihelix of the left ear, and red pimples broke out on the lower jaw, matter continues to flow from the nose at intervals. Interposing now a dose of Sulphur 1. gr. 1, the discharge of matter from the left nostril increased considerably.

Dec. 15th. Some unfavourable symptoms appeared to day.

The patient received now T. Arnicae gtt. 16 in half a tumbler of water every six hours a spoonfull till Jan. 7th when all his hydrocephalic symptoms had gradually disappeared. The postules had become confluent and fallen off in one large scab.

On the 18th of Jan. 1839 he was again affected with a spasmodic cough, excited by the least exercise, rattling in the throat on breathing, a slight pain in the head, for which he received a few doses of Nux vom. 3 and afterwards Arsenic 4. in half a tumbler of water, a spoonfull every 6 hours, for 8 days. This medicine restored him to perfect health. As a precantionary measure Arsen. 4. in water one spoonfull daily, was yet continued for a month and no relapse has yet taken place now 4 months. The boy has in fact enjoyed unusually good health. Whether he will remain finally free from renewed attacks, considering the nature of such diseases and the hereditary predisposition to it, is extremely doubtful. To remove this predisposition it would be requisite to continue the treatment for years, and yet few parents can be persuaded of its necessity.

XTRACT FROM DR. STEPHEN SIMPSON'S PRACTICAL VIEW OF HOMŒOPATHY, ETC.

(Continued from page 103.)

INFLAMMATIONS IN THE CHEST.

FOURTH CASE.*

Philipp Jud, surveyor in the mines of Konisberg, three miles from Giessen, aged thirty two, was taken ill in the night of the 2d of September, 1832, having caught cold in the mine which he descended in a state of great perspiration: he did not, however, send for medical advice till the 25th of the same month. The symptoms were violent shiverings, lasting for upwards of two hours, then burning heat with pulsating pain in the forehead, lancinating pain in the left side of the chest, greatly increased by deep inspiration and by caughing, which for the last twenty-four hours had been accompanied by the expectoration of bloody mucus; he had also great thirst, constipation, passed but a small quantity of dark red urine with a sensation of scalding, and complained of sleeplessness and great weariness. His usually pale face was burning red. He was ordered two doses of aconite 30, the one to be taken immediately, the other the following morning, should no improvement previously take place. Dr. Rau was called to him next morning at 6 o'clock. It appeared that the previous day after the messenger had been dispatched for the medicine, the patient had grown worse and worse; that the lancinating pains had gradually fixed themselves in the region of the heart, the breathing become more difficult, the cough more distressing, the thirst now burning, and an indescribable anxiety rendered it impossible for the patient to remain more than a few minutes in the same position. He had taken the first powder at 4 o'clock, but without relief, and in an hour after had a fainting-fit, which before the arrival of Dr. Rau had recurred four times, once with retching, but each time it began with nausea. His countenance was now cadaverously pale, the forehead covered with large drops of prespiration, the eyes dull and heavy, the mouth open, the lips blue and parched, the tongue apparently clean, of a purple colour and dry. His features bore the expression of great pain and mental anxiety; to relief his sufferings he often endeavoured to raise himself, but sank immediately back again. The breathing was extremely short and quick, the pulse thready and tremulous, often disappearing under the finger, and the application of the hand upon the region of the anxiously convulsed and trembling heart, appeared to afford him much relief. He endeavoured to overcome the irritation which was continually urging him to cough, and in the attempt had another fainting fit with great coldness of the surface. His mind also wandered, and he spoke incomprehensibly now of his employers and of the mine, now of his domestic affairs and approaching death; he then apparently slept for a couple of minutes and awoke suddenly, as if struck with an electrical shock. In this state his medical attendant introduced two globules of arsenic 30 between his lips, and left a second dose to be given

* Ueber den Werth des homöop, Heilverfahrens

in the evening should it be necessary. From this moment the state of the patient improved: he had no return of syncope, and the anxiety towards evening had altogether disappeared, and in the night he had several hours of refreshing sleep; at times he coughed with considerable force and expectorated some yellowish mucus. Towards daybreak, a warm, general perspiration manifested itself, during which he slept for two hours. Upon awaking he complaining only of pain in the chest upon deep inspiration and coughing, and of great weakness; he had altogether recovered his consciousness. The second dose of arsenic was given him upon awaking, contrary to the directions of his medical attendant. During the following night the patient again slept tranquilly and perspired freely, and the symptoms in the chest had further diminished in the morning. He now took a dose of bryonia and was able in two days to leave his bed.

FIFTH CASE.*

The infant son of Jacob Diehls, of Vetzberg, near Giessen, fell ill on the 14th of August, 1833, (having already been suffering for a couple of days from slight catarrhal symptoms) with violent fever, loud barking cough, hoarseness and wheezing respiration. The following day, the father reported to Dr. Rau, that the child had passed the whole of the preceding night in anxious disquiet with great heat in the skin, and would no longer take the breast, but took milk from a spoon with avidity. The cough had become constantly hoarser and more barking. Three doses of aconite 30, one every two hours, and after the third dose, 2 globules of spongia tosta were ordered. On the 16th, at six in the morning, the child was reported to be no better, and that the difficulty of breathing had increased: the spongia tosta was ordered to be repeated, and in the evening Dr. Rau visited the child himself. It lay in a violent fever, its face covered with a chilly sweat; the carotids were beating strongly and quickly, the breathing was croupy and wheezing, and so difficult that suffocation appeared imminent, particularly during the frequently returning fits of coughing which were sometimes attended by retching, but by no actual vomiting; the anxiety and disquiet were indescribable, and it was impossible for any one who had ever seen croup in its state of full developement, not to recognise it at once. There were now ordered aconite and spongia tosta alternately every two hours. On the 17th, the father announced that the child had again taken the breast, coughed somewhat seldomer, but breathed with as much difficulty as before. The medicines were ordered to be continued. In the morning of the 18th, quite early, the father reported to Dr. Rau, that the cough in the night had assumed a totally different tone, that the breathing had no longer the same anxiously wheezing sound, but was attended by a sort of rattling as if much mucus was in the throat. The heat too had considerably diminished, and the child had become pale and appeared weak. The acme of the inflammatory stage seemed to have been passed, and the danger now consisted in the probability of a paralysis of the respiratory organs. To meet this, therefore, a dose of tartarus stibiatus 6, every five hours was ordered. The convalescence now proceeded

* Ueber den Werth des homöop. Heilverfahrens.

rapidly, and on the following night the child twice threw up by vomiting much tenacious mucus. Some cough remaining with a tendency to retching, much resembling hooping cough, induced Dr. Rau two days after to exhibit a dose of drosera, with which the treatment was closed; the child having perfectly recovered.

SIXTH CASE.

M. N***, a young gentleman, about six years of age, residing in London, was attacked in June last by a slight catarrhal symptoms, which readily gave way to the exhibition of two or three doses of chamomile. After the cough had altogether subsided, however, there remained a peculiar tone or flatness of the voice which induced me to believe that some mischief was going on in the windpipe, though at the time no other symptoms could be detected. I, therefore, directed the friends to let me know immediately should a return of the cough take place. In the afternoon of the same day, I received a note stating, that since dinner the little patient had been attached by severe fever, and a particularly harsh and distressing cough: he also complained of pain about the windpipe. Having sent a dose of aconite 6, I determined to visit the child myself in the evening; but, before I could reach the house about 9 o'clock, another messenger had been dispatched to say that the child was much worse and was threatened with suffocation: the nurse too had immediately recognized the disease as the croup, having some time previously attended a child labouring under that affection: and indeed, the character of the disease could not be mistaken, even without entering the room, by any one who had once heard a croupy cough. Since 7 o'clock, the little patient had had several fits of coughing with great straining and occassional retching; he was now laying in the most anxious disquiet, in a burning fever with a dry skin, an extremely frequent and quick pulse, a hurried and wheezing respiration with clangous tone and occasional fits of a shrill and suffocative cough, which prevented all repose; the voice too was scarcely audible and there was tenderness of the larynx upon pressure.

From the preceding catarrhal symptoms, the tenderness of the larynx, and the intensity of the fever, there could be no doubt of the inflemmatory character of the disease, and hence the importance of arresting the inflammation before exudation should take place over the lining membrane of the windpipe. For this purpose aconite and spongia are the best known specifics The first dose of aconite having been given about an hour previously, a second was now exhibited, snd arrangements made to repeat it alternately with spongia 3, every hour till the symptoms should subside. About 12 o'clock, it was evident that a considerable amelioration hae taken place, as the skin was covered with a profuse perspiration and the cough and difficulty of breathing were less severe, so that though still restless, the little patient was able to get some sleep at intervals. The medicines were now ordered to be given every two hours. In this way the improvement proceeded very gradually till 7 o'clock in the morning, when the child fell into a sound sleep, and awoke about 10 o'clock perfectly free from fever with a soft and moist skin; the cough too had become quite loose and entirely lost its croupy tone, and the voice was nearly natural, though still a little hoarse. As the

bowels were much constipated, a dose of nux vom. 12, was given at night with the desired effect, and subsequently a dose or two of drosera 3, to remove the slight remaining hoarseness and cough, with which the treatment was concluded and the health of the patient rapidly restored.

INFLAMMATIONS IN THE ABDOMEN.

SEVENTH CASE.*

M. N***, a young French lady, about fourteen years of age. residing with her parents at Baden, was attacked in the month of September of the year 1832, after exposure to cold, having been previously much heated, with all the symptoms of acute inflammation of the intestines, for which Dr. Kramer, physician of the baths, proceeded to treat her according to the usual method. In spite, however, of all allopathic remedies, such as leeches (87 of which were applied within the first six days), warm fomentations, linseed, sedative poultices, sedative liniments, emollient and aperient injections, hip-baths, emulsions and calomel, latterly combined with opium, not only did no improvement take place, but the intensity of the symptoms seemed to increase every hour, so that on the seventh day the patient appeared in imminent danger.

At this critical moment, Dr. Siegel of Bruchsal, an experienced physician of fifty years standing in the old school, but who for the last two years had adopted the new method, arrived at Baden. Upon Dr. Kramer relating to him the extremely dangerous state of his patient, Dr. Siegel suggested that possibly Homœopathic remedies might still effect a cure, though from the disease having reached the seventh day without any appearance of a crisis, from its extreme severity, and from the great loss of blood and the profuse use of calomel, he much doubted it. Notwithstanding that Dr. Kramer had always been a great opponent of Homœopathy, still as he had lost all hopes of restoring his patient by the usual means, he thought it but right to give the new method a trial. He hastened, therefore, immediately to give the patient 3 globules of the 24 dilution of aconite, which dose was ordered to be repeated every three hours during the night. To the astonishment of Dr. Kramer and of the parents, the patient the following morning, the eighth day of the disease, was much better, having for the first time during her illness slept at intervals in the night; the retching which never failed to follow upon taking the blandest fluid had now ceased, the constant pain in the bowels had almost disappeared, though upon pressure there was still some tenderness, the distention and hardness of the abdomen had also greatly diminished, and the fever had nearly subsided: and all this too had taken place without any material crisis either by perspiration or urine. During the day, the patient took a few more doses of aconite, and the following morning seemed to be altogether freed from her dangerous disease.

Though much astonished at the result of this first experiment with the new method, Dr. Kramer, already a forty-years-practitioner of the old school,

* Hygea, Band I, p. 8.

was by no means satisfied that the recovery was to be attributed to the action of the minute doses of aconite; as it was possible that it might be the result of the after-effects of the leeches, calomel and other antiphlogistic remedies; still the absence of any material crisis seemed to oppose this view of the cure. He had soon, however, an opportunity of satisfying himself on this head.

The reconvalescence of the young lady was very slow, the debility being very great, and it was only after three weeks had elapsed that she was so far recovered as to walk without assistance. About this time, in the fourth week of her convalescence, she was incautiously exposed to a current of cold air, and was immediately attacked by the same disease as before. Constant acute pain in the umbilical region, which was increased by the slightest pressure, frequent and painful eructation, repeated vomiting of a greenish yellow matter, constipation of the bowels, a small, quick and hard pulse, great heat of the surface, much thirst, great anxiety and constant restlessness; such, besides, many others, were the essential symptoms which left no doubt that an inflammation of the bowels was again present. As not only the friends but also the patient, seemed to place their every hope in the Homœopathic method, and entreated Dr. Kramer again to try it, he consented, though not without fears for the result, and immediately exhibited to the patient 3 glob. of aconite 24. Scarcely half an hour elapsed, before the patient fell into a quiet sleep, which lasted for upward of three hours. Upon awaking she felt herself refreshed, complained no more of any of the announced symptoms and wanted to get up, which was not, however, allowed till the following day. She had no further relapse.*

EIGHTH CASE.†

Madame Brennemann, residing at a farm near Vetzberg not far from Giessen, was put to bed on the 10th of February 1834, had a good time of it, and found herself particularly well till the 16th of the month, when she was attacked with severe shivering, followed by great heat, headache, and acute pain in the right side with short cough. She did not send for Dr. Rau till the 18th, who then found that the secretion of milk had almost entirely ceased, and the lochia had stopped: the symptoms seeming to threaten a pleurisy. She took a dose of aconite immediately, another in the evening, and on the 19th a dose of bryonia. The fever disappeared, the lochia returned, and the breasts filled with milk; but the pain in the side continued; this, however, also gave way upon the exhibition of a dose of arnica 6. On the 24th, she received a few friends and in entertaining them, incautiously exerted herself. and went about from one room to another. In the night she was attacked by severe fever, with violent and burning pain in the abdomen, which became much swollen. Dr. Rau was again called and found all the symptoms of a peritonitis. The breast were empty of milk, the lochia suppressed, and the secretion of urine very scanty. The distention of the abdomen with constipation occasioned great distress. A dose of aconite was

* This case was the means of entirely changing Dr. Kramer's views in regard to the worth of Homœopathy, which he has since practised with increasing confidence and success, but with lower dilutions.

† Ueber den Werth des homöop. Heilverfahrens.

given every five hours, and the following morning a dose of bryonia, which acted so speedily that on the 27th all the secretions had again become regular. The intumescence of the abdomen had disappeared, and with the exception of a dose of pulsatilla which was given to alleviate the plaintive state of the mind, no further medicine was requisite.

NINTH CASE.*

Mme. W***, a woman of weakly constitution, had suffered for some years from inguinal hernia of the right side. When first she noticed it, she was attacked by pain in the abdomen, constipation, nausea and at length vomiting of fecal matter. All medicine administered by the mouth was instantly rejected, so that many things were tried, particularly tobacco injections, without any beneficial effect. At length at the expiration of seven days, copious dejections took place and the disease gave way, leaving behind it great debility. On the 22d of December 1834, a descent of the intestine again took place, and Dr. Arnold of Heidelberg, now professor of the University of Zurich, was sent for in great haste. He found Mme. W*** in bed, suffering from acute pain in the abdomen. For some days previously she had felt some pain and traction in the right thigh, which had been followed by acute pain in the bowels; this had gradually increased for some hours past, and was now accompanied with sickness at the stomach, though no vomiting had as yet taken place. There had been no movement of the bowels for the last thirty hours, neither had she been able to pass any urine for a long time, though there was a constant tenesmus of the bladder. The abdomen was much distended and painful on pressure. As yet, however, there was little fever; though the patient complained of dryness of the mouth and great thirst, and frequently asked to drink.

Some careful attempts were first made to reduce the hernia, but in vain; and, as they caused much pain from the great sensibility of the parts, they were soon desisted from. Under these circumstances at 2 o'clock in the afternoon Nux vomica 5-30 was given, upon which the pain soon abated and the hernial tumour become softer. The pain and distension of the tumour now returned every fifteen or twenty minutes though in a less degree; but at length, after a second dose which was given at 4 o'clock, the pain altogether subsided and the tumour disappeared. Towards evening, the patient was again cheerful and happy at having so soon overcome the danger; the next morning, she had a copious and rather fluid evacuation; and at midday, Dr. Arnold found her again occupied with her domestic affairs.

INFLAMMATIONS OF EXTERNAL PARTS.

TENTH CASE.†

Madame H***, fifty years of age, of a sanguinocholeric temperament, had been subject for some years past to an annual attack of erysipelas of the face, and had already for four days been suffering from a return of the disease, when Dr. Seguin of Heidelberg was called too see her. The face was of a purple red colour, and so swollen that the eyes could not be opened: the

* Hygea, Band II, p. 171. † Hygea. Band I. p. 86.

swelling extended also to the parts of the head covered with hair, and to the mucous membrane of the mouth and fauces, so that deglutition and respiration were rendered difficult. Upon the face were vesicles of various sizes. The patient also complained of headache, pain in the bowels which were constipated, want of appetite, bitter taste in the mouth and nausea; at times too there was vomiting of mucus. From the commencement of the disease, she had had no sleep; there was a constant febrile heat with great thirst during the day, and she had a shivering fit in the evening.

As the patient complained much of the suffering she had endured from the active vomiting and purging to which she been subjected in her former illnesses, Dr. Seguin ordered 1-6 of a grain of the extract of belladonna to be rubbed down with sugar, of which she took a fourth part dissolved in a little water immediately; at the same time an injection of honey, salt and water was administered. The patient soon after fell into a refreshing sleep, and in two hours awoke much better. Feeling the good effects of the belladonna, she took the other 3-4 of the 1-6 of a grain of the extract, and in six hours after Dr. Seguin found her greatly improved. The swelling of the face was diminished, the taste in the mouth more natural, the bowels had been opened with relief of the abdominal pains, and the patient took some bread soup with tolerable appetite. The convalescence proceeded so rapidly that on the fourth day there was scarcely any appearance of swelling. Without the knowledge of her physician she took the other 5-6 of the grain of the medicine, which had been kept in readiness. For the four years following this attack there was no relapse.

ELEVENTH CASE.*

Sch****, a linen weaver, of weakly constitution and still further reduced by poor living, was altogether incapacitated from working by a rheumatic attack, for which he consulted Dr. Hartmann, who found him suffering from a violently acute pain alternately affecting the knees, the arms, the head, the shoulders, the neck, and the feet, which prevented all movement of the parts. After the pain had continued for some time, the parts affected began to swell and grow hot; upon which the pain gradually subsided, only, however, to attack another part. During these attacks the rest of the body was affected by constant chillness. The pulse was hard, small, and concentrated; the tongue white and slimy; there was no thirst and the appetite was trifling; the intestinal and urinary secretions were natural. In the early part of the night sleep was impossible, as there was always an exacerbation in the evening, followed towards three in the morning by a remission, which then allowed him to get a little repose. His countenance was pallid; and his mind composed.

The peculiar migrating character of the pains, seemed here to indicate pulsatilla, of which a dose of the 12th dilution was immediately exhibited. The next day the patient reported, that towards evening there had been an exacerbation of the pains, but not near so much as the previous night, neither had they continued so long; since, so early as eleven o'clock he had fallen into a composed sleep, which has lasted till six the following morning. The pains in the affected parts, had not, however, altogether disappeared, though they were greatly diminished and allowed him to leave his bed. They now abated almost hourly, and in the course of three days he was again able to resume his work without the further aid of medicine.

* Archiv für die homöop Heilkunst. Band V.

MISCELLANEOUS CASES.

TWELFTH CASE.*

Dropsy.

Adam Kilbert, of Lauterbach, a poor, dwarfish, hump-backed linen-weaver, forty years of age, was attacked in the evening without any known cause by severe shivering, followed by burning heat, headache, pain in the extremities, oppression at the chest, dry cough and an insatiable thirst. Dr. Rau saw him thirty-six hours after, and found not only his face but his whole body enormously swollen so that pressure with the finger left an impression in the part. The patient had also obtuse headache, dull eyes, white-furred tongue, and much saliva. The thirst had totally ceased, he complained, however, of want of appetite, oppression at the pit of the stomach, frequent griping pain about the navel, which was followed invariably by an evacuation of gelatinized mucus; he had also frequent but mostly ineffectual calls to make water: he was extremely weak, had alternately horripilations and acute pains in his extremities, with coldness of the whole body. He found it difficult to answer the questions put to him, for he could not fix his attention well on one subject; he was also very much alarmed, and his pulse weak and slow. A single dose of a drop of the strong tincture of helleborus niger cured him perfectly in three days.

THIRTEENTH CASE.†

Dropsy.

The day labourer Müller, a man about fifty years of age and a great lover of brandy, but of a robust constitution and from his activity in going messages often employed when dispatch was requisite, suffered in the year 1834 for several weeks from a catarrhal affection with cough and swelling in the feet; he sought no advice, however, till he was reduced to the last extremity. Dr. Rau found him sitting in his arm chair; for owing to the difficulty of breathing he was unable to lie down: he looked cadavcrously pale; his lips were blue, his limbs ice-cold, his body distended to the very pit of the stomach, as hard as a stone, and the limbs greatly swollen. The mucous expectoration had ceased for eight days past and the nostrils were dry. He had a frequent, short, convulsive cough; the bowels were constipated and the urinary secretion suspended. For some days past he had taken no pleasure in his usual favorite beverage, brandy.

He took immediately a dose of arsenic 30, and on the following day the secretion of urine has increased with evident diminution of all his sufferings. In three days he was able to lie down and to breathe freely. A few days later, the improvement not advancing, he took another dose of arsenic, the effects of which were astonishing, for in eight days he was able again to go about the town and pursue his former avocations; and he is now in perfect health.

* Ueber den Werth des homöop. Heilverfahrens.

† Ueber den Werth des homöop. Heilverfahrens.

FOURTEENTH CASE.*

Dropsy.

Philip Bonanns, of Grossenbeck, fifty-three years of age, was working as a daily labourer in the summer of 1833 in Wetterau, and usually slept in out-houses upon hay; in consequence of which he caught several severe colds, and at length became so ill as to be obliged to return home. When Dr. Rau saw him on the 31st of September, his feet and legs had already been swollen for upwards of three weeks. For the last eight days the swelling had been gradually extending up to the ribs, and the skin of the scrotum seemed ready to burst: in the abdomen also there was evident fluctuation. His principal complaints were anxiety, palpitation, difficulty of breathing, oppression in the region of the stomach and liver, with want of appetite and some thirst, constipated bowels, diminished secretion of high coloured urine with a burning sensation in passing it, unquiet sleep disturbed by dreams, evening fever with heat of the face and coldness of the extremities, dryness of the skin with a sensation of itching and creeping in the swollen parts. As the disturbed function of the skin seemed to be the first thing to be attended to, the patient took a dose of sulphur 30; and first on the 19th, after the urine had begun to flow more copiously and the swelling of the genitals had altogether disappeared, the œdema of the legs alternately rising and falling, he took four globules impregnated with the pure juice of the sambucus. In twenty-four hours the skin became moist, and the urine flowed copiously: at the end of the next twenty-four hours the improvement again standing still, the last remedy was repeated every other evening up to the 9th of October, when the swelling had altogether disappeared. The patient however, thought that he still perceived in the evening a trifling swelling about the ankles, and complained much of weakness for which he received a dose of china 12. On the 14th, he complained of some distension and pressure in the region of the liver, and had an itchy eruption on the legs very similar to psoriasis; these symptoms, as also the pale yellow tinge of the countenance, seemed to call for a dose of calcarea, which he took, and in fourteen days after, all morbid symptoms had disappeared.

FIFTEENTH CASE.†

Diarrhœa.

A man, about forty years of age, previously healthy, was attacked in the night (in the autumn of 1833) with acute griping pain in the bowels, and frequent diarrhœa, which continued the whole day. In the evening Dr. Griesselich, of Carlsruhe, was called to him and found him lying in bed in a state of great prostration; he sighed while speaking and complained of alternations of heat and chilliness; the evacuations of the bowels were preceded by griping pains; they were very frequent, and took place in a stream with great vehemence being quite watery; at the same time there was great

* Ueber den Werth des homöop. Heilverfahrens.

† Hygea, Band III, p. 245.

rumbling in the bowels, with nausea and intolerable thirst. The countenance was much troubled; the pulse frequent and small, the skin (though the patient at the time complained of chilliness) was warm; the appetite was null and the tongue white. Had cholera been in the neighbourhood, it might have been considered as a sample of the disease, such was the depression of of the patient and the enormous quantity of the secretion evacuated.

Dr. Griesselich immediately ordered half a grain of arsenic to be rubbed up with two drachms of milk sugar and divided into fifteen parts, of which the patient was ordered to take one every hour, till the diarrhœa abated. A small portion of thin almond milk was allowed for drink. After the first dose of arsenic the patient had only six motions more: he then, about midnight, fell into a composed sleep and had no return of the diarrhœa. The next morning Dr. Griesselich found him in every way better, though still weak; the skin was moist and the thirst much diminished. By way of precaution a few doses more of the medicine were ordered to be taken at long intervals, and then, as no relapse took place, it was discontinued. The recovery was prompt; though the weakness and want of appetite required a few doses of the one-sixth of a grain of the powder of nux vomica, which fully restored the patient to health.

A CASE OF ASTHMA THYMICUM KOPII,

OR

LARYNGISMUS STRIDULUS ANGLORUM, CROWING OR CROUP-LIKE INSPIRATION.

BY DR. G. LINGEN.

Dr. Kopp and other German pathologists have named this disease according to what they considered to be the pathological momentum, viz: enlargement of the thymus gland, Asthma thymicum;* English practitioners, however, as also the Germans Caspari and Pagenstecker, supposing that the hypertrophic state of the thymus is likely to be the effect and not the cause of this disease, contented themselves with assigning merely a symptomatic name for it, viz: Laryngismus stridulus, crowing or croup-like inspiration of children. But since Kopp and those practitioners who assisted him with their observations,† have vindicated the name of Asthma thymicum at least for those cases, which fell under their observation, and since other practitioners, equally creditable, have met with a disease resembling the one described

* Dr. J. F. Kopp's Denkwürdigkeiten in der ärztlichen Praxis. I. B p. 22.

† Dr's. Rullmann, Tritschler, Velsen and Ulrich.

by Kopp, without having found any anomalies of the thymus what ever; it is evident, that Kopp's Thymic Asthma and the Laryngismus stridulus Anglorum are diseases, apparently similar in their symptoms, but different as to their exciting causes. We say apparently similar, for it remains questionable whether the symptomatology of either of these diseases is completely known, so that, through further observations, a diognosis may yet be pointed out. The substance of all data recorded in reference to these two diseases, seems to justify the conclusion, that the thymic asthma is invariably connected with a scrophulous diathesis, whilst many cases which have been classed under the head of Laryngismus strid. have been of an idiopathic spasmodic nature, falling under the denomination of Millar's Asthma. Reyland* goes even so far, as to consider the latter and Laryngismus as identical, which, however, is so totally at variance with the views of many of the most experienced pathologists, that it deserves no further notice. The same author is also inclined to ascribe, with Dr. Ley, this disease principally to enlarged bronchial and cervical glands and thinks it "more than possible, that such enlargements were overlooked (by the German practitioners) at the inspection of the bodies, since so striking a lesion as hypertrophy of the thymus would probably prevent a further search" after the cause of the symptoms, which preceded death.

In this supposition, however, Mr. Reyland seems to be mistaken, for Kopp has not failed to mention the state of the trachea and lungs and Dr. Ulrich even carefully reports, that he found one bronchial gland in a state of suppuration,† so that there is no reason to suspect these practitioners would have overlooked the enlargement in question, if it existed, since moreover, even prior to Kopp and to any of the authorities, quoted by Reyland, Peter Frank has directed the attention of the profession on this subject, when saying:

"In asthmate, ut nominant, puerili, *glandulas bronchiales*, praeter sanitatis modum, turgidas, maxime vero *thymum* insigniter tumefactum invenerunt anatomici: ita quidem ut totam fere anterioris pectoris regionem ille occupaverit, &c."

Reyland, however, or his authorities in the Dublin Journal, have overlooked, on their part, the important phenomenon, stated

* F. Reyland's Treatise on the Diseases and Injuries of the Larynx and Trachea. Reprinted in Dr. Dunglison's Medical Library. V. II. No. 18. p. 127.

† Kopp libr. cit. p. 106.

by Kopp, that in several cases of this form of asthma, which terminated fatally, the thymus was found in a semicartilagenous state, particularly where the arteria innominata passes under it, enclosing the latter in a hard cartilagenous ring, which prevented the expansion of the artery at the systole of the heart. It is not improbable that this observation may assist the diagnosis of this disease, as we shall presently show.

The case which came under our notice was that of a scrophulous boy, three months old. Previous to medical aid having been called in, as early as three weeks after birth, he was frequently attacked with sudden suspension of respiration, which, after a few seconds duration, terminated with that peculiar grating sound, which has received the name of "crowing, croup-like inspiration." There was no regularity as to the return of the attacks, nor did they become more frequent, until, through exposure to cold, he was taken with suffocative catarrh, which, however, was soon removed by repeated doses of Antim. tartar. I. The attacks of suspended respiration, however, would now occur upon the slightest provocation, such as a certain position whilst nursing or sleeping, through laughing or crying, &c.

The face become of a dark red colour during the attack, he drew his head back and invariably towards *his left shoulder*; at the right superior angle, formed by the sterno-clavicular symphysis (about the clavicular portion of the origin of the sterno-cleido-mastoideus muscle) a considerable depression becomes visible, of equal duration as the paroxism and having evidently more than an accidental connexion with it, for it would also occur, if, when an obstacle prevented the head being drawn to the shoulder, so that it could not be accounted for by the mere position of the head. His teeth were firmly clenched and the tongue was in an almost lacerated state from the repeated bites during the paroxysms, which were also generally accompanied by, what have been termed, carpo-pedal contractions.*

Pupils considerably dilated, pulse quick, and faint, faeces and urine passed involuntary during the attack. His tonsils and most of the cervical glands were enlarged and some of the latter indurated, and though there was no regular type in the return of the paroxysm during the day, yet it pretty certainly would occur after midnight. These two characteristic features of the disease,

* The thumbs are pressed constantly and firmly against the palms of the hands, the toes bent downwards and the wrist and anklejoints inclined inwards.

together with its predilection for the right side, as observed by Kopp and others, seemed to indicate Ammon. carb., which, in reality, at first mitigated, and finally eradicated the disease, after several narcotics, as Bellad., Conium, &c. having been tried without any relief whatever. If the symptom, that he head is drawn towards the left shoulder, should also be found a constant one by other observers, it may indicate similar pressure on the arteria anonyma as mentioned by Kopp, producing congestion in the left carotid artery and causing thus spasmodic action, of the pneumogastric nerve, particularly visible in its branches of the same side.

This then, besides being a diagnostic symptom for a disease which often snatches off its victims during the most innocent and sweetest time of a parents enjoyments, would also indicate, that the safest position for the little patient whilst sleeping would be lying on his back, in preference to either side. However, we shall be glad to receive any information from other observers, either in contradiction or confirmation of these remarks.

INSTRUCTIONS,

by which patients at a distance, afflicted with chronic diseases, may communicate their cases to a physician by letter.

(Translated from the German.)

The patient should first describe his complaints in his own way, as though these instructions were not before him, viz: their commencement, progress and presumptive causes. The age and sex of the patient and whether he be married or single, should of course be communicated to the physician, if these circumstances be not already known. It would be well to mention whether the patient is of a large or diminutive frame of body, meagre or stout, feeble or robust. Whether he is easy to take cold, and very susceptible to other external impressions. Is the complexion florid, or pale, or dark? What is the colour and condition of the hair, and the colour of the eyes? Concomitant bodily imfirmities, as hernia or rupture, prolapsus uteri, curvature of the spine, lameness, &c., should be made known. Is the disposition of the patient mild and placable, or boisterous and violent? firm or yielding, lively and communicative, or reserved and taciturn; anxious, apprehensive, or timorous, or irritable, &c.? Are his mental emotions of long continuance, or are they very transient?

The patient is next required to give an accurate and particular description of the incidents or symptoms of his disease, such as pains and other morbid

sensations. He should describe precisely the region or part, and on which side of the body they are seated, and how large is the space they occupy. Whether the pains are obtuse, and may be denominated dull or pressing, or whether they are sticking or piercing, rending, throbbing, perforating, pulling or drawing, pinching, snatching, gnawing, cutting, griping, burning, obtusely prickling or crawling, itching, tickling, numb or as if the part were asleep, as if from a sprain or contusion, or whether they consist of several of these sensations combined, or may be more accurately represented by other terms.—Are the symptoms continued, or do they remit or vary in intensity from time to time? Do they recur at particular times of day, or at certain intervals of one or more days? Is their recurrence, aggravation, diminution or cessation connected with the exercise of any bodily function? Do they arise or disappear, are they increased or diminished by exercise, or during rest, by lying down, or sitting, by stretching out, or bending up the body, by walking, by standing, by warmth or cold, in the open air or within doors, by light, by noises. by talking, by eating, by drinking or swallowing, soon after eating, by the motion of the affected part or by touching or pressing it, by mental emotion—fright, anger, during bodily or mental exercise, reading, &c. &c.—Are the symptoms associated with anxiety greater or less, do they impair the powers of thought or recollection, or the due exercise of the senses? (seeing, hearing, &c.)—Are the motions or functions of the affected part in any way impaired or disabled? or is the local disease associated with complaints in other parts, and with what? does it alternate with other complaints? Is the affected part red or swollen? Is the swelling hard or soft or painful to the touch, and does it leave an indentation after pressure with the finger?

During the sufferings of individual parts or functions of the body, (even when these sufferings are not the principal ones) further information is to be given respecting the state of the patients mind; whether he suffers patiently, or is inclined to weep, to be morose, passionate, despairing, greatly anxious or fearful, &c., or whether the mind is remarkably affected in these respects by the disease. Are the intellectual functions, power of thought, memory or desire or ability for mental or bodily exercise weakened?—Aberrations of mind, morbid affections of the moral and intellectual faculties are to be described by the narrators strictly as they are manifested by the patient's words or conduct.

Is there dizziness, or "a dull, heavy sensation" of the head.—Disorders of sight. Does the patient see objects indistinctly as through a veil or mist? Does he see dark specks floating before the eyes, or sparks, or false colours? Do objects appear double or quivering? Is the patient short- or long-sighted? Is the pupil contracted, dilated or very changeable? Are the eyes watery, red, inflamed, averse to the light? Do the eye-lids frequently adhere together? Do they open and close properly? Are they affected by convulsive motions or twitchings or beset with sties? Are there speeks upon the cornea?

Disorders of hearing: Is there a roaring, whizzing, or ringing noise in the ears? Is the ear-wax dry or fluid, oozing from the ears, or foetid?

Are the nostrils obstructed? Is there a cold in the head with or without a

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Does the patient sleep long, or is he restless, and is the sleep interrupted by frequent waking or startings? Does he talk or moan in his sleep, or has he the night mare? Is the sleep disturbed by anxious dreams and of what character? In what posture does the patient lie during sleep? Is he accustomed to sleep with his month open? How is his strength? Is he obliged to lie down or can he remain up? Does he feel languid, weary, or sluggish, &c.? Is he emaciated?

The patient should relate his previous diseases,—particular cutaneous diseases—itch, eruptions of the head, tetter, erysipelas, small pox, measles, pimples on the face or any itching eruption of the skin.—Also, whether he has had scrofula (glandular swellings) rickets, gout, rheumatism, piles, difficult dentition, worms, cramps, epilepsy (convulsions), hooping cough, inflammation of the lungs, or other inflammations, intermittent or remittent fever, jaundice, haemorrhages, diseases of the teeth, apoplexy and palsy, sweating of the feet, ulcers, or other diseases. He relates how long he laboured under either of these affections, how long he was under treatment for them, what were the remedies employed, and what he has used for the existing disease. Has he resorted to medicated baths, herb teas of any kind, blood-letting, emetics or cathartics, teas "for purifying the blood," valerian tea, "strengthening medicines," Peruvian bark, &c. And is he accustomed to the use of either of these remedies? Is he in the habitual use of distilled or fermented liquors, coffee, tea, much fat victuals, acid, or high seasoned food?—Does he partake of much food and what?—His manner of living shouldbe described and whether he is accustomed to the use of woolen clothing and whether his habitation is in a wholesome condition.—When passions or emotions of the mind retard recovery, or have caused and sustained the disease, he should not conceal these circumstances from the physician, for example: disappointed love, blighted hopes, grief, domestic unhappiness, want. Neither should he conceal the fact of former habits of licentiousness if any such have existed, and which may have contributed to his disease. If he has always been of a weakly frame of body, probably his disease is hereditary; and if when an infant, he did not receive his nourishment at the breast, but was brought up "by hand," he should inform his physician of the fact. C. F. M.

MISCELLANIES.

Collected by C. Nd.

In the "Archives de la medicine Homœopathique" of March 1838, Dr. Simon remarks (what has already been remarked by many other Homœopathic physicians) that a number of organic diseases do not possess an equivalent in the materia medica pura, e. g. croup, ascites, epilepsy, tubercles, cancer. In man the symptoms cannot be increased to the degree of organization or metamorphosis. This, however, can be done in animals whose object is here to obtain information with regard to the material

the different tissues and mixtures, experiments with animals would be of great value in the treatment of chronic material diseases of man. With animals the doses can be increased until death, and every degree of the effect of a poison on the animal economy can be studied. Of the conditions according to which these experiments with animals should be conducted, Dr. Simon will treat in a second article.—

Before the medical faculty of Paris two inaugural theses have lately been defended upon the subject of Homœopathy. In the first by Dr. Samtaur on the *law of specificity*, the name "Homœopathy" is omitted, in order not to offend the learned Professors. Dr. Juvin on the other hand speaks out the *word* and particularly defends the Homœopathic materia medica and practice, as well as the law of specificity. Mr. Juvin graduated without opposition.—

We are indebted to our friend Dr. Scholl for the translation of the following notices from the Italian:

Dr. Anton. de Blasi Annali di Medicina Omiopathica per la Sicilia. Palermo 1837, contain a short account of the asiatic cholera and its successfull Homœopathic treatmeut. Highly extolled as almost infallible remedies are the Spir. Camphor. in the first stage and in the 2d, Veratrum album. When the disease has already turned into a nervous fever with delirium, Bryonia alba was given alternately with Rhus radicans. In a letter by a noble Hungarian Lady it is added that in the treatment of herself and peasants, Spir. Camph., Veratrum, and Copper universally restored them, even from the worst state of the disease. Pag. 353 we find a necrological notice of Dr. Jos. Franchina an eminent anatomist and Homœopathic practitioner in Sicily, who died the 9th of July 1837, a victim to the Cholera. He is particularly lauded for his extraordinary skill in embalming dead bodies, so as not only to prevent their putrefaction but also to preserve fully the colour and natural shape of even the most delicate parts of the body and the flexibility of the muscles.—

Dr. L. Simon in an article on pure and impure Homœopathy in the "Archives Homœopathiques de Paris" observes: "Successfull cures, however, numerous and extraordinary they may be, do not suffice to establish the triumph of a new doctrine." However, parodoxical this may sound, it is nevertheless true. All doctrines from the rudest empiricism to the stiffest trinarism, refer to their cures. *To cure* is certainly the last aim of medicine, but what shall we understand by the word *cure?* Here the difficulty commences. To disperse external ulcers with caustics, to stop leucorrhoeas gonnorrhoeas with astringents by some are also called *cures*. The same is the case with Homœopathy; its cures are yet too new, time has not yet printed its stamp upon them.—

Griesselich of Carlsruhe in his letter to Hufeland says: Many well meaning friends of Homœopathy say, that the truth will finally [illegible] not concur in this. Truth I see [illegible] of man

they see their error in time, and they must begin anew in their search for truth. But the great majority want it not, and get offended, if they see zealously searching for it those discontented eccentrics, who are not content with the prevailing sentiments of the day, who do not praise the time being, who do not raise their voice in favour of that every day life, which shows itself under a thousand forms, of which egotism composes the principal part.

New Homœopathic publications.

1) *Beauvais*, Effets toxiques et pathogeniques des medicamens, sur l'economie animale dans l'etat de sante. Recueillis et mis en tableaux synoptiques. In 8. Paris. Prix de la livre 2 Fr. 50 Cent.

2) *L. Simon*, Dr. Memoire sur les maladies scrofuleuses. In 8. Paris. 2 Fr. 50 Cent.

3) Die chronischen Krankheiten, ihre eigenthümliche Natur und Homœopathische Heilung, von Dr. *Samuel Hahnemann*. 4 Theile. Düsseldorf. Second edition.

4) Miscellen aus dem gesammten Gebiete der theoretischen und practischen Medicin, von Dr. Altschuhl, Bd. 1. Lief 1. Prague 1838.

This small volume contains 1) experience with the Veratrum in the Cholera; 2) on the effects of roses in pthisis pulmonalis; 3) on the abuse of mercury among the country people; 4) on the healing power of mustard in typhus abdominalis.

5) *Practice of Homœopathy*, by *P. F. Curie*, M. D. Opiniorum commenta delet dies, naturæ judicia confirmat. Cic. London 1838. 8. p. 366.

6) *Domestic Homœopathy*, by *P. F. Curie*, M. D., formerly surgeon in the military Hospital of Paris, member of the Parisian Homœopathic and gallican societies; physician to the London Homœopathic Dispensary, author of "the Principles of Homœopathy." "The Practice of Homœopathy," &c., with additions and improvements by Gideon Humphrey, M. D., &c. Philadelphia 1839. Duodecimo, p. 250. Nd.

*** In concluding with the present number the first year of the Homœop. Journal the editors claim the kind indulgence of the friends of Homœopathy for the many inaccuracies, numerous typographical errors and other defects, with which it abounds, all of which, should they succeed in continuing the hey will use their most strenuous efforts to remedy in their future

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